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THE WAR: DEPARTURE OF PRUSSIAN FROM CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY STATION.
SEE PAGE 113.

THE SECRET TREATY PROJECT.

For three or four days of the present week public attention has been diverted from the movements of hostile forces on the banks of the Meuse and the Saar, to a short diplomatic document, which made its first appearance in the columns of the *Times*. No founding laid at the doorstep of a respectable householder could have excited more eager inquiries, or have given rise to more interesting speculation. The question as to how it got there, is very speedily merged in questions which relate to its anterior history. Of this Project of Treaty very little is authentically known beyond the facts of its genuineness, of the original being now in the archives of the Prussian Government in the handwriting of M. Benedetti, of the subjects to which it relates having been matter of discussion between representatives of France and Prussia, and of its having been laid aside with the concurrence of both parties. Everyone knows by this time what were the projects shadowed forth in this draught of treaty. France was to recognise the acquisitions made by Prussia in the war of 1866 with Austria. Prussia, on the other hand, was to help France to obtain from Holland, and by purchase, the duchy of Luxembourg. France, again, was to make no objection to a federal union, based on a common Parliament, between the North German Confederation and the South German States—the separate Sovereignty of such States being reserved; and Prussia, in return for the acquiescence of her great military neighbour in this arrangement, was to abet France in the military occupation and ultimate absorption of the kingdom of Belgium. With a view to carry these objects into effect, an "alliance, offensive and defensive," was to be contracted.

Perhaps the truest way of looking at this project of treaty is to imagine an analogous case in private life. A memorandum, say, suddenly comes to light which purports to put into a written form subjects which have been talked over by two well-known and influential householders of any imaginary place. The memorandum points to a robbery proposed to be effected by the joint operations of these two persons upon a third, who, of course, in common with his friends, is kept in entire ignorance of what is being negotiated. What would be the general opinion of the village in which a discovery was suddenly made that two of the principal members of the community had agreed together, or, at any rate, had talked together with a view to agreement, that if one of them could get a fair opportunity of breaking into a neighbour's house, the other would stand at the door of it, and, if possible, prevent any interruption, may well be conjectured. The joint undertaking described in the memorandum might never have ripened into an actual agreement; both parties might have laid it aside as inexpedient, at least for the present; but, surely, the unanimous opinion of their neighbours would have condemned both for having, if not seriously discussed, at least exchanged thoughts upon, a proceeding involving treachery to a neighbour and wrong to the community.

It will not recommend military monarchies to the sympathies or to the confidence of the English people, that they are found capable of shaping projects of conquest which no sooner see the light of day than every effort is made to disclaim all serious intentions with regard to them. Which may be the guiltier of the two parties referred to in the draught treaty is not just now so interesting a question as is the consideration which the document forces upon every reader's mind that the great Powers of the Continent can and do moot subjects of discussion which a vast majority of the people of all nations would regard as placed beyond the legitimate range of international conference. France and Prussia are equally bound by treaty with England to protect the neutrality of Belgium, and to assure to her an independent sovereignty. But if they, through the appointed diplomatic agents of their respective Courts or Governments, can interchange opinions having reference, not to the fulfilment of their treaty obligations, but to an intended violation of them, of what worth, for the future, will be any written bond of agreement between Power and Power, when selfish interests suggest the expediency of tearing the bond to pieces? Is it a common thing, we ask, for these military Powers, armed as they are to the teeth, and susceptible to offence in a high degree, to discuss one with another in secret conclave how far it may or may not be convenient to suspend for a while their martial rivalry, and unite in effecting, at the expense of smaller Powers, great changes in the map of Europe?

The disposition to conspire against the independence of weaker countries, illustrated by the project of treaty unexpectedly brought to light, is one of the natural consequences of the maintenance of armaments beyond what may be absolutely required for self-defence. The power to plunder with impunity is also a strong temptation to plunder. We do not believe that either France or Prussia has yielded to the temptation more than England or any other European Power would have done in the same circumstances. It is the system, and not the particular nation involved in it, that is to be reprobated. The very handling of effective weapons, and the consciousness of strength and of superiority which it awakens in the possessor, sets free desires to use that strength, partly for the pleasure of the exercise, but partly also for the clat and advantages that may be gained by it. The world, we fear, will not be quite so indignant as it ought to be at the discovery recently made. It associates to-

gether the ideas of national might and national right. It insists upon the wisdom of every nation increasing its organised physical might to the utmost of its capacity, and it is only natural to glide into the conclusion that what a nation can do it has, or can find, a right to do.

The revelation of what now and then goes on behind the scenes of international diplomacy is likely, we hope, to be attended with good results. Mutual recrimination, and mutually extorted confessions, will do but little to increase the enmity which has arrayed France and Prussia against each other; but they will, probably, do something towards ensuring for neutral nations a more considerate and loyal treatment than under other circumstances they would have received. The exigencies of the war may even yet bring about an infraction by one or other of the belligerent Powers of the treaty engagements which guarantee the neutrality of Belgium; but that result will not now be wantonly or lightly caused by either of the combatants. Public opinion has branded with so deep a mark of execration the international crime, whilst yet in a state only of unformed purpose, as to render it an object of strong desire with both France and Prussia to prove that they are not guilty of indifference to the obligations under which they had previously placed themselves. We are not weak enough to suppose that parties who could coolly "compare notes" one with another on the most profitable modes in which they might turn their united strength to account will change their views of the morality of their conduct merely because they have been found out. But we think it far from unlikely that the notions they entertain of the expediency of disregarding their solemn pledges to Europe will undergo an almost revolutionary modification, and that, fully aware as they are of having concentrated upon themselves the attention of Europe in regard to this one point, they will recognise the immense importance of keeping as clear as possible of everything that might compromise the new protestations which the publication of the project of treaty has compelled them to make. Disagreeable, and we may even say revolting, as the revelation has been, we hope its effect will be to restrict the war to France and Prussia, and so localise its operations within their respective territories.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday, July 28.

The Emperor and the Prince Imperial in uniform, went direct from St. Cloud to Strasbourg to-day by railway. His Majesty was much cheered on his departure. The Emperor has sent the following letter to the commandant of the National Guard of the Seine:—"I beg you to tell the National Guard of Paris how much I reckon upon their patriotism and devotion. At the moment of leaving for the army I am anxious to express the confidence I place in them to maintain order, and to watch over the security of the Empire. At the present time everybody must contribute to the best of his powers towards the safety of the country."

The result of the opening skirmish of this momentous war is known all the world over by the present time. It is the 12th mounted Chasseurs, under the command of General de Bernis, who have reaped the first laurels on the Rhine, routing on the 25th a troop of Bavarians who were engaged in reconnoitring the French lines in front of the little town of Niederbronn, killing one officer and taking two others prisoners. As yet this is the only engagement that has been officially reported. On the evening of the 22nd the Baden sentinels suddenly retired from the end of the railway bridge at Kehl, and a few minutes afterwards a portion of the structure was blown up; other explosions followed, and eventually the Baden end of the bridge was effectually destroyed. The next day, on failing to blow up the bridge of Kinzig with gunpowder, some Baden artillerymen proceeded to cannonade it until it was completely demolished. Reports have reached Paris that the Baden troops have entirely abandoned the fortifications of Kehl and retired into the interior.

So far as Paris is concerned, the week has been one of addresses, declarations, circulars, proclamations, despatches, decrees, and departures of troops. The Corps Législatif addressed the Emperor on Friday, through its President, M. Schneider, who, quoting Montesquieu, said the real author of the war was not he who declared it, but he who rendered a recourse to arms necessary, and that, in the present instance, all the world threw the responsibility upon the King of Prussia. The Emperor replied in the accustomed Napoleonic strain; said he was resolved to pursue with energy "the great mission intrusted to him;" that he had faith in the success of the French arms, as France, who supported him, was protected by Providence. The day following a proclamation came out setting forth that there were "solemn moments in the life of peoples when the national honour, violently excited, imposes itself with irresistible force, dominates all interests, and alone takes in hand the destinies of the country. . . . Launched on the path of invasion, Prussia has aroused defiance everywhere, necessitated exaggerated armaments, and turned Europe into a camp, where only uncertainty and fear of the morrow reigns. . . . It only remains to us to confide our destinies to the decision of arms. . . . We wish to conquer a lasting peace." This is invariably the motive which the Second Empire puts forward when about engaging in war. Even now France swarms with addresses, posted along all its highways, from the mayors of the various communes, calling upon all who desire "peace" to vote "Yes" on the question of the plébiscite. The Duke de Gramont has forwarded a lengthy despatch to the representatives of France at foreign Courts, wherein he asserts that the question of raising a Hohenzollern Prince to the throne of Spain had been agitated so long back as March of last year, when it had been as good as disavowed by the Prussian Government on the remonstrances of the French Ambassador. The sittings of the Senate and the Corps Législatif have been adjourned by decree; and M. Ollivier has notified to the French newspapers, through the *Journal Officiel*, that the law passed by the Chambers a week since interdicting the publication of any information respecting the movements of troops or warlike operations by land or sea will be rigorously enforced. Finally, the Empress has been to Cher-

bourg to pay a visit to the fleet, at which she read aloud a proclamation of the Emperor.

The Minister of War has given orders for the fortifications of Paris to be forthwith put in a state of defence, the capital being now almost entirely denuded of regular troops; it is the same with regard to Versailles, Vincennes, Mont Valerien, &c. The Garde Nationale are posted at all the Ministries and various public buildings, and the Garde Mobile have been called out and are being rapidly installed in the various fortresses and garrison towns of the empire, every soldier that can be spared having been by this time dispatched to the frontier.

Throughout the week, by day and by night, the streets of Paris have been crowded with soldiers marching to the Strasburg Railway station, whence as many as 25,000 men, including their baggage, together with artillery and ammunition, have been dispatched, on an average, every day. One day it was the Zouaves, with a parrot perched on the shoulder of one of the foremost men, and shrieking out, "To Berlin!" who were the object of popular ovations. At other times it was the chasseurs, the voltigeurs, the lancers, the hussars, the Turcos, and the grenadiers of the Guard, who, marching with drums beating and colours flying, were accompanied by acclamations every step of their way; while at others it was a long procession of artillery and ammunition waggons, rattling heavily over the asphalté of the boulevards.

Marshals M'Mahon, Bazaine, and Le Bosuf have left Paris for their respective commands on the frontier. Prince Napoleon, who has returned to France, is also to be intrusted, it is said, with a command on the Rhine. General Changarnier, now in his seventy-seventh year, made an application to the Minister of War for a command, but met with a refusal, more on account of his age, it is thought, than of his well-known anti-Napoleonic principles. He retires, he informs his countrymen, to grieve in his province, satisfied, nevertheless, that the army has able enough chiefs without him.

With an excitable people like the French, easily worked upon by certain newspapers over here that are only too ready to distort facts and invent the most exaggerated reports, with the view of inflaming the public mind, there was no difficulty in making the impending war with Prussia extremely popular, at any rate for a time. Upwards of a hundred thousand voluntary enlistments for the term of the war have taken place in Paris and the provinces. Considerable funds have been already raised for the benefit of the wounded and the families of those who happen to be killed. A patriotic suburban mayor sent the Emperor 10,000f. for the army, whereupon another mayor contributed 100,000f.; and a subscription started by the *Gaulois* newspaper has produced already upwards of half a million of francs. The *Figaro*, jealous at the lead taken by the *Gaulois*, has recently opened a subscription to present a small glass of brandy and a cigar to every soldier in the army, and in the course of a few days 20,000f. are sent to it for this purpose. One individual publicly announces that, although Prussian born, he gives half his fortune, which is no less than 60,000f. per annum, for the benefit of the victims of the war on the French side. All the public bodies, moreover, have subscribed liberally, and the various theatres and places of amusement have given gratuitous performances with the same object.

"The Marseillaise"—Rouget de l'Isle's patriotic hymn, not M. Rochefort's newspaper, of which more anon—has been transported from the boulevards to the opera and the various theatres and café concerts. Madame Sasse has sung it at the former, costumed as the goddess of France; and Mlle. Theresa, at the Gaité, in the dress of a cantinière. Bitter songs against the Prussians are, however, just now the rule at the various outdoor concerts all over Paris. The *Marseillaise* newspaper reappeared the other day, but only to be seized by the police. Several subsequent numbers were published, the last of which contained an announcement to the effect that its further publication was postponed until "the hymn of Rouget de l'Isle, which was now Bonapartist and official, should again become Republican and seditious."

WAR NOTES.

The war news is as yet confined to petty skirmishes on the frontiers. Both French and Prussians are on the alert, and are pushing their reconnaissances into each other's territory, leading to encounters in which some lives have been lost. The Prussians blew up the abutment of the Baden end of the Rhine bridge at Kehl yesterday week, and the explosion was terrific, the fragments being thrown to the French shore.

The two hostile nations are mustering their forces on the Moselle, the Saar, and the Rhine. More than 200,000 French troops are being gathered along the border between Thionville and Strasbourg, a central point just now being the town of Metz, which is at present the principal French rendezvous, backed by the support of a gathering-point at Nancy. It is in or near this district, on one or other side of the Rhine, that no doubt the first great shocks must come. There are vague reports, however, of a French division destined to be disembarked from the North Sea or the Baltic by the French fleet, and to operate in the sore places of Germany in and about Schleswig-Holstein or Hanover. The following gives roughly the positions of the various French forces:—At Thionville, which forms the left of the French line, is the 4th Corps, under General Lamirault, numbering 33,000 men; at Metz is the 3rd Corps, with Marshal Bazaine, about 42,000; at Nancy, the Imperial Guard, commanded by General Bourbaki, 25,000 strong. The 1st Corps, under Marshal M'Mahon, 45,000, has been withdrawn from Strasbourg, and is probably in or near Metz. Another body of troops is located at Belfort. The 2nd Corps, under General Frossard, 35,000 men, is at St. Avold. The 5th Corps, under General Faily, believed to be 45,000 strong, is in waiting. Marshal Canrobert has the reserve at Châlons. Altogether, therefore, the French have in the field something like 280,000 men. The troops at Thionville, Metz, and Nancy are clustered upon the railway line to Trèves, and in communication with Nancy is the line from Paris to Strasbourg. At Lyons General Montauban is believed to have a considerable corps under arms. Troops are massing at Cherbourg, and the forces from Algeria are being organised for special use against the enemy. The war fleet of France consists of about sixty ironclads, including floating batteries.

The Prussians are reported to be massing between Mayence and Coblenz; but, although they have not, like the French, turned all journalists out of the camp, little newspaper correspondence has yet reached London from their army. The foremost point at which German troops seem to have taken standing at present is Trèves.

The Archbishops and Bishops in France have been requested to offer up public prayers for the Emperor, the Prince Imperial, and the French arms. The Empress has been appointed Regent by Imperial decree. By other decrees the departments of the Upper and Lower Rhine and the Moselle are declared in a state of siege, and the contingent of 1839, consisting of 90,000 men, is called out.

A Paris telegram states that the number of French volun-

teers enrolled in Paris now amounts to 15,000, and in the rest of France to 85,000. The subscriptions which have been collected for the relief of the wounded already amount to a million francs (£40,000).

In reply to statements contained in the Duc de Gramont's circular, the Prussian Government officially declare that neither Count Bismarck nor Baron Thile exchanged with M. Benedetti a single word on the subject of the candidature of Prince Hohenzollern to the throne of Spain since they were first aware of the fact that the Spanish crown had been offered to the Prince.

M. Emile Ollivier has written a letter to a friend in England on the subject of the proposed treaty between France and Prussia, given at page 113. His statement is that it was not negotiated by the Cabinet formed on Jan. 2 last. The only negotiations that Cabinet has had with Prussia being indirect, Lord Clarendon being the intermediary. Their object was to assure the peace of Europe by a reciprocal disarmament. M. Ollivier, in conclusion, says that he has no secret policy, and that he does not consider might superior to right.

The inspired journals of Paris admit that, after the treaty of Prague, several negotiations took place at Berlin between Count Bismarck and M. Benedetti on the subject of a scheme of alliance, and that some of the ideas contained in the draught treaty were raised; but they state that the French Government never had cognisance of a written project, and the Emperor rejected the proposals made in the course of the negotiations. The French journals declare that the object of the publication of the draught treaty was to mislead the public opinion of England.

The draught treaty is published in the official Berlin papers, which declare that it is in the handwriting of M. Benedetti, and that it is now in the archives of the Minister for Foreign Affairs at Berlin. The *Correspondance de Berlin* asserts that, before the war of 1866, France offered her alliance to Prussia, with a promise to declare war against and attack Austria with a large army, if Prussia would consent to make certain territorial concessions to France on the left bank of the Rhine.

On Thursday week (as stated in a large part of our impression last week) the Loan Bill was passed in the North German Parliament. Count Bismarck then thanked the members, in the King's name, for the rapidity and unanimity with which they had voted the supplies; and the House adjourned until Dec. 31, 1870.

The King of Prussia has issued a proclamation in which he states:—"I am compelled to draw the sword to ward off a wanton attack, with all the forces at Germany's disposal. It is a great consolation to me, before God and man, that I have in no way given a pretext for it. My conscience acquits me of having provoked this war, and I am certain of the righteousness of our cause in the sight of God. The struggle before us is serious, and it will demand heavy sacrifices from my people and from all Germany. But I go forth to it, looking to the omniscient God and imploring His Almighty support."

Wednesday was observed as a general fast-day in Prussia to implore the blessing of the Almighty on the German army.

The Queen of Prussia has addressed a public appeal to the German women to send such objects as will be wanted for the wounded as quickly as possible to the branch offices of the League established for that purpose, which are situated on the left bank of the Rhine.

The Crown Prince of Prussia, having communicated to the South German Sovereigns his appointment as Commander-in-Chief of their armies, has received from each of them a congratulatory message expressing their satisfaction. The King of Bavaria is "very happy," and thanks the Prince for his attention. The King of Wurtemberg rejoices, "in our German affair," to have the opportunity of saluting his Royal Highness, and begs the Prince to notify his arrival. The Grand Duke of Baden says the nomination of the Prince fills him and his troops with joy, and they hope to gain his Royal Highness's confidence by their fidelity and bravery. The Grand Duke thus concludes:—"We await with joy the arrival of your Royal Highness. Long live the King! long live the Fatherland!"

Saxony throws in her lot with the other German States. In the sitting last week of the Federal Council Baron Friesen, in the name of the Saxon Government, which, as he stated, was entirely at one with all other Federal Governments, declared that it agreed with all the steps hitherto taken by the President of the Confederation, and with the views which Prussia had expressed on the circumstances which have brought about the present position of affairs. Baron Friesen concluded as follows:—"France demands war. Let us hope that it will be carried on with all possible speed and energy."

General Vogel arrived at Hanover on the evening of the 21st, and published the order by which he assumes the military government of so much of Prussia as is included in the provinces furnishing the 1st, 2nd, 9th, and 10th Corps. These are chiefly East Prussia, Pomerania, Schleswig-Holstein, and Hanover; and the appointment shows that the King has provided for the safety of his kingdom during the general movement of the army westward by intrusting the care of the whole northern coasts to this vigorous old officer.

In a sitting, last week, of the Lower House of the Diet of Hesse-Darmstadt, Herr von Dulwig, the Prime Minister made a speech in which he stated that the German frontier had been violated under frivolous pretexts. He declared that all particularist dissensions must disappear in face of the impending danger to the Fatherland, and he begged the House to sanction unanimously the bills which he had to submit. The credit for 3,376,000 fl. for the Hessian contingent, and a loan of 1,800,000 fl. were agreed to nem. con. The sitting closed amid cheers for Germany, the King of Prussia, and the Grand Duke.

A Paris letter states that a great number of spies have been arrested by the French, and that about one hundred are now confined in the church at Forbach.

We hear from Cologne that the clearing of the glacis and neighbourhood of the fortifications is pushed forward with all possible speed. The beautiful trees are falling one after another, and the structures surrounding the town are disappearing fast.

A telegram from Rome states that the French troops have received orders to quit the Pontifical territory. The French Government has represented to the Holy See that it is necessary for France to have the service of all her available troops at this moment. It was intimated at the same time that the Italian Government would, in conformity with the September convention, undertake to secure respect for Pontifical territory on the Italian frontier.

Debates occasioned by the war between France and Prussia have taken place in the Italian Chamber. The Government will observe a strict neutrality. Signor Lanza, in answer to a question, declared that the Government was quite able to maintain internal order, and thus prevent a repetition of occurrences such as those which led to Mentana. The House finally passed a vote of confidence in the Ministry by 168 to 103 votes.

An official circular has been issued by the Belgian Govern-

ment announcing that reassuring declarations have been received from the belligerents with regard to the respect that will be paid to the neutrality of Belgium.

The Austrian Government has officially notified its determination to maintain neutrality in the war. The note of the Austro-Hungarian Cabinet begins by expressing regret that the efforts it has made to prevent war have not succeeded. The note then states that the said Cabinet is not called on to judge the reasons for which France and Prussia have seen fit to go to war, or the opportunities of choosing the present moment for commencing hostilities; but that its duty is to endeavour to circumscribe the limits and hasten the conclusion of the war—a duty which it will honestly fulfil. In discharging that duty it will observe a strict neutrality between the two combatant Powers; but the neutrality will be an attentive one.

Danish neutrality is reasserted by the Copenhagen official journal of Tuesday, which publishes regulations to be observed by shipping during the war.

It is announced from St. Petersburg that the Russian Government has done all in its power to prevent the outbreak of war, and that the Czar will remain neutral so long as Russian interests are not affected by the eventualities of the campaign. The Russian Government undertakes to support every endeavour to circumscribe the operations and diminish the duration of the war.

GREECE.

King George has accepted the resignation of his Ministry, and has charged M. Delegeorgis with the formation of a new Cabinet. The following are the names of the members of the new Ministry:—Minister of the Interior and Foreign Affairs, M. Delegeorgis; Minister of Finance, M. Christide; Minister of War, M. Gebraccaki; Minister of Public Worship, M. Antonopula; Minister of Marine, M. Drosio; Minister of Justice, M. Bojulo.

AMERICA.

The President has ordered a steamer to be sent to Venezuela in order to enforce payment of the claims of American citizens against that State.

Viscount Treilhard has been appointed to the post of Minister of France at Washington, rendered vacant by the recent suicide of M. Prevost-Paradol.

The Cambria arrived at Sandy Hook Lightship on Wednesday afternoon at seven minutes past three, and is the winner of the Atlantic yacht-race. She was met down the river by a large number of yachts and steamers, and was enthusiastically cheered the whole way up to Staten Island. The Dauntless arrived an hour and a quarter afterwards; but the yachts never sighted each other after the night of the start. This fact was owing to the Cambria taking a northerly course, while the Dauntless kept the southern track. The Cambria carried away two foretopmasts, but had spare ones on board to replace them. She met with no other mishap, and arrived at New York, all well. She had strong westerly winds, and fresh gales to Cape Race, which she sighted on Monday, the 18th. After that she had light head winds to Sandy Hook. The Dauntless had a succession of strong north-west winds, with occasional gales and calms.

Lady Franklin has been cordially received at Cincinnati, where she has arrived in good health by overland route from California.

The Austrian Consul-General in New York, Chevalier de Loosy, fell dead in the street yesterday week from apoplexy.

The Fenians are expecting that England will be involved in the European war, and the president of one of the Fenian factions has summoned a convention, to be held at Cincinnati on Aug. 23. Irishmen are reminded that "England's difficulty will be Ireland's opportunity."

INDIA.

The Ameer of Cabul has secured the allegiance of the Khyber chiefs, who have undertaken to keep the Khyber Pass clear.

The cash balance in the Indian Treasury at the end of May last amounted to £13,630,246.

The Maharajah of Vizianagram dedicates £20,000 to the foundation of an Alfred Medical College at Allahabad, to commemorate his interview with the Duke of Edinburgh.

A Calcutta telegram of Tuesday states that considerable destruction of crops is expected in consequence of serious inundations in Eastern Bengal.

The Liège journals announce the death of M. Theodore Lacordaire, professor at the University and brother of the celebrated preacher.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies, on Saturday last, approved the Ministerial convention with the National Bank by 180 against 128 votes.

The Swiss National Council has approved the St. Gothard Railway Bill. The Session of the Federal Council was closed on Saturday.

A telegram from Bombay announces that intelligence has been received there by the China mail that an insurrection had broken out at Awa, in Japan, and that 1400 persons had been massacred.

Four French war-vessels have arrived at Tien-Tsin, and a Chinese Imperial Ambassador has been sent to Paris to offer satisfaction to the French Government for the recent massacre. Order has been re-established at Peking and in the provinces.

From the Cape of Good Hope intelligence reaches us of further discoveries of diamonds on the Vaal, some of them very fine; and a rush was being made to the "diggings." It was believed that diamonds to the value of £100,000 had been picked up by Europeans alone.

THE FORTRESS OF METZ.

The French town of Metz, a strongly-fortified *place d'armes*, upon which, and upon the neighbouring fortress of Thionville, the left wing of the Emperor Napoleon's army will rest in its advance upon the Rhine, is situated in the Department of the Moselle, about 170 miles east of Paris, at the confluence of the River Moselle with a smaller stream. Our Correspondent in France has sent us the two illustrations we have engraved, on page 125, of a part of the fortifications and the arsenal at Metz. This place having now become a great point for the rallying of troops and collection of munitions, a railway line has been laid down to connect the arsenal with the railway station.

The Porte des Allemands, or Gate of the Germans, situated in the same quarter of the town, and protected by fortifications of more modern erection, is one of the seven gates of Metz. It has the aspect of a stronghold flanked with towers. This gate was constructed in the fifteenth century, as is attested by a Gothic inscription upon one of the towers. It is a very interesting specimen of the military architecture of the Middle Ages. Against this gate and that part of the town now defended by Bellefort, the Emperor Charles V. principally directed his efforts in the siege of 1552.

The arsenal of Metz is situated at the eastern end of the town, between the town and the fort of Bellecroix. It contains many objects of interest—notably the Salle d'Armes, containing 60,000 muskets, from 7000 to 8000 pistols, and a great quantity of other arms. This arsenal is a vast establishment. Large numbers of arms are fabricated in its workshops, as well as munitions of war. It formerly contained a curious bronze cannon, called the Griffon of Ehrenbreitstein, which was captured by the French in 1799, and which was remarkable for its rich ornamentation, as well as for its dimensions. This is now in the Museum of Artillery at Paris.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENCE.

The correspondence between her Majesty's Government and the Cabinets of France, Prussia, and Spain, with regard to the candidature of Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern, and, arising out of that subject, the present war on the Continent, was issued, late on Tuesday night, as a Parliamentary paper. The document is one possessing an historical importance. The correspondence fills a bluebook of seventy-seven pages, and ranges from July 5 to July 24.

It opens with a telegram from Mr. Layard, on July 5, announcing that the Spanish Council of Ministers had decided upon proposing the hereditary Prince of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen as a candidate for the Spanish throne; and a despatch from Lord Lyons, at Paris, of the same date, stating that the Duc de Gramont had informed him of the same fact, adding that France could not permit a state of things which would oblige her, in the event of war with Prussia, to keep a watch on Spain. Earl Granville, in his reply, states he has seen the French Ambassador, who urged the British Government to use its influence with Prussia and Spain to put a stop to the projected installation of the Prince.

The following day (July 6) Earl Granville writes to Lord Loftus, at Berlin, instructing him to urge on the King of Prussia and his advisers effectually to discourage a project fraught with risk to the best interests of Spain; but adding that the British Government had not in any measure admitted that the assumption of the Spanish throne by Prince Leopold would justify the immediate resort to arms threatened by France. On the 7th Earl Granville instructs Mr. Layard that he has advised the Spanish Ambassador to press on the Spanish Government, in terms scrupulously compatible with their dignity, the wish of her Majesty's Government that they should not give effect to the proposed step.

Lord Lyons reports to Earl Granville, on the 7th, an interview with the Duc de Gramont, who stated that the accession of Prince Hohenzollern meant war; but added that he trusted much to the influence of the British Government on the Courts of Madrid and Berlin. On the same day Lord Lyons reports that Count de Solms Sonnenwalde, Prussian Chargé-d'Affaires at Paris, told him he thought it probable neither the King of Prussia nor Count Bismarck knew anything of the Prince's candidature.

On the 8th Lord Lyons reports that the Duc de Gramont informed him that the silence of Prussia rendered it impossible for the French Government to abstain any longer from making military preparations. A voluntary renunciation on the part of the Prince would, the Duc de Gramont thought, be a most fortunate solution. On the 9th Earl Granville writes Lord Lyons that the Italian Minister has informed him the Italian Government is prepared to unite in efforts for the preservation of peace.

Lord Loftus writes to Earl Granville, on the 6th, respecting an interview of Mr. Petre with Herr von Thile, who stated that the Prussian Government considered the succession to the throne of Spain was a question with which the Prussian Government had no concern whatever. On the 10th Lord Loftus writes to Earl Granville that the Duc de Gramont had assured him the French Ministers were following, not leading, the nation. On the 12th Lord Loftus writes that the Duc de Gramont had told him the Ministers were already reproached with a want of spirit, and there were Ministerial considerations which counselled immediate action. Lord Lyons adds it is quite true that the nation is extremely impatient. On the same day, later, after recapitulating the news of the relinquishment of the candidature of Prince Leopold, Lord Lyons writes the Duc de Gramont had told him it was doubtful whether the Ministry would not be overthrown if they announced that the affair was finished without further satisfaction from Prussia. On the 13th Earl Granville expressed to Lord Lyons the great disappointment of Government at the Duc de Gramont's language in the Corps Législatif, and on the same day Lord Lyons represents to the Duc de Gramont the immense responsibility which the French Government will incur if it enlarges the ground of quarrel and does not at once declare itself satisfied with the renunciation of the Prince of Hohenzollern. On the same day Lord Lyons reports that the Duc de Gramont had said the French Government had as yet received literally nothing from Prussia.

Earl Granville writes on the 15th to Lord Loftus in Berlin the result of a conversation with Count Bernstorff, in which the latter said that any further concession on the part of Prussia would be equivalent to submission to the arbitrary will of France. On the same day Lord Loftus reports to Earl Granville an interview with Count Bismarck, who said the extreme moderation displayed by the King of Prussia was producing throughout Prussia extreme indignation.

On the 15th Earl Granville writes to Lord Lyons, stating that her Majesty's Government suggest to France and Prussia in identical terms that, before proceeding to extremities, they should have recourse to the good offices of some friendly Power. On the previous day (14th) Lord Lyons had written Earl Granville, stating the excitement produced in Paris by the news of the alleged affront to M. Benedetti at Ems, and adding he cannot give any hope that war will now be avoided. The same day Earl Granville suggests by telegraph that if France waived her demand for a guarantee for the future the King of Prussia might communicate to her his consent to the withdrawal of the acceptance of Prince Leopold. Lord Lyons, in reply, reports a conversation with the Duc de Gramont after the declaration of war.

In the subsequent correspondence Lord Granville instructs Lord Lyons to use his best efforts to secure the observance of the treaty rights of neutrals, and Lord Lyons reports negotiations with this object.

Letters from Mr. Buchanan at St. Petersburg announce that M. Fleury has endeavoured, without success, to induce Prince Gortschakoff to side with France. Other despatches relate to the refusal of the French Government to allow newspaper correspondents to take the field; the negotiations at Vienna with a view to the preservation of peace; and to the efforts of the British Government to secure the neutrality of Holland and Switzerland. On the 20th Baron Brunnow proposed to Earl Granville a protocol to be signed by the great Powers recording the renunciation of the crown by Prince Leopold.

Announcements respecting the rights of neutral vessels, and the treatment of Prussian subjects residing in France, conclude the correspondence.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE WAR.

The arrangements which have been made to supply this Journal with Illustrations of the War, by the employment of several Artists whose ability to delineate military subjects has been proved in former campaigns, will ensure the full and faithful representation of its most remarkable scenes and incidents. In the present Number we give a variety of Illustrations, showing the proceedings at Paris and Berlin, the manifestations of popular excitement, the state of the French fortifications at Metz, the Prussian squadron of iron-clad ships lately visiting our shores, and the departure of some Germans resident in London to join the army of their country.

It will be remembered that the first announcement of the intention of the French Government to make war against Prussia took place on Friday, the 15th inst., in the Corps Législatif, where the Prime Minister, M. Emile Ollivier, read

a statement concerning the refusal of King William to give a promise not hereafter, at any time, to sanction the acceptance of the Crown of Spain by Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern. "In such circumstances," said M. Ollivier, "to make other attempts at conciliation would be to evince a want of dignity and an imprudence. We have not neglected anything to avoid war, and we must now prepare to sustain that which is offered us, leaving to each party his own responsibility. Yesterday we called out our reserves, and with your co-operation we will at once adopt such measures as are necessary to protect the interests, the security, and the honour of France." This announcement was received with loud and prolonged cheering, and as soon as the excitement had subsided, M. Ollivier presented a bill to accord a credit of 50,000,000*f.* to the Minister for War. A similar declaration was made in the Senate by the Duke de Gramont, and was fairly received, although not so warmly as in the Lower Chamber.

Large detachments of troops from the Paris garrison were sent off the same evening by the Strasbourg Railway station. There was a crowd of people, of the working class, hanging about—probably friends and relatives of the soldiers. They were sullen and rather sad in looks. A mob of youths came rushing down the boulevard shouting "Vive l'Empereur!" "A Berlin!" and then they howled snatches of the "Marseillaise." It was not difficult to perceive that they were an officially organised mob. No one joined them; no one responded to their shouts. The mob rushed wildly on without receiving any sympathy from the workmen in blouses on the pavement. Besides this demonstration, there were cabs going about with soldiers who carried a flag. The four men in the hired vehicles now and then shouted "Vive l'Empereur!" No one responded. It looked very much like a got-up demonstration, organised by the police. The men were not like the real working men of the faubourgs; and the systematic way



M. OLLIVIER ANNOUNCING WAR TO THE CORPS LÉGISLATIF.

in which they marched to the invitation of leaders looked suspicious, especially as at marked periods they shouted "Vive l'Empereur!" "A Berlin!" "Vive la Guerre!" then singing the "Marseillaise," the "Chant du Départ," and "Mourir pour la Patrie!" The mob went to the Prussian Embassy and cried out, "A bas Bismarck!" but did no harm. Nevertheless, the curious and the idle crowded the boulevards up to two o'clock in the morning. Next day a large crowd collected about the building of the Legislative Chambers. The streets of Paris were crowded with groups discussing the prospects of war; the newspapers sold largely. Many families have left the capital, and the hotels are comparatively deserted.

The afternoon trains from Paris on the different railways, on Friday, the 15th, took down to the country the evening papers containing the Ministerial declaration made by MM. de Gramont and Ollivier to the Senate and Corps Législatif; and its arrival was awaited at each French station by crowds of people eager to possess themselves of the news. The progress of these trains through the northern provinces was enlivened by a series of demonstrations, all of which were noisy, whilst one or two were picturesque. At Compiègne, for instance, a

gentleman with his hands full of Paris *journaux du soir* was surrounded as he stepped from his carriage, elevated upon an extempore tribune hastily made up of benches and a table, and made to read the war speech to a breathless audience of two hundred. When he had concluded, the assemblage broke out into cries of "A bas les Prussiens!" "Mort à Bismarck!" and "A Berlin!" All this took place whilst the train was standing in the station. The coup-d'œil from the carriage windows revealed a stirring little picture, full of colour and vitality—a crowd of upturned faces, their outlines cut sharply out of the surrounding darkness by the light thrown upon them from a few gas-burners attached to the façade of the station. In the centre, and raised above them, was the news-bearing passenger, reading from his paper, and supported by an infantry corporal holding up a lantern, the rays of which, shining on both their faces, brought them into strong relief. After the cheering had subsided the bell rang, and the train moved slowly out of the station to the sound of the "Marseillaise" sung in chorus.

On page 121, we present an Engraving which shows the scene in front of the Royal Palace at Berlin, within a few

hours of the same time. It was only on arriving at Berlin and in the railway station, that King William received the first intimation of the French declaration of war. The telegram containing it was brought by the Under-Secretary of State, M. Thile. Count Bismarck read it to his Majesty, surrounded at that moment by the Crown Prince, Generals Moltke, Wrangel, and the Ministers. The King listened very calmly to the statement of M. Ollivier; but he could not repress a movement at the passage which states that France "accepts" the war, and throws upon Prussia the responsibility. The reading finished, his Majesty was noticed to turn towards the Crown Prince and tender him his hand, which the latter raised at once to his lips. The King then embraced his son, and his deep emotion was visibly shared by all around him. On the spot a kind of improvised council took place between the King, the Crown Prince, Count Bismarck, and the Generals. The necessary resolutions were adopted in a few minutes, and the Prince, going to the King's suite, which was standing a little way back, pronounced these two words—"Krieg! Mobil!" (War! Mobilisation!) The Prince's words at once spread among the

crowd collected outside the station, and produced at first a kind of stupor. But at the sight of the King the first impressions gave place to an explosion of patriotic enthusiasm. Along the route from the station to the palace the hurrahs of the population never ceased, and the National Anthem was sung by thousands of voices under the windows of the palace. King William showed himself several times on the balcony in reply to the acclamations, the emotion of the day being visible on his features. The order for mobilisation was at once signed and published.

An interesting scene was witnessed on Saturday evening, the 16th, at Charing-cross station, London, on the departure of the mail-train for the Continent. About thirty Germans left for Berlin to join the army, and were accompanied to the

station by nearly one hundred of their countrymen. The leave-taking had to take place at the gate which leads to the departure platform; but none of the young men's friends left the small space before the gate, where they presented a compact mass, all determined to remain till the train actually departed. The young warriors had seated themselves quietly in the carriages; there was scarcely a word exchanged between any of them; all seemed calmly resolute, like men prepared to perform a patriotic duty. A few minutes before the time the train was appointed to leave, a cheer was raised from the dense mass before the gate. From each window in the train an arm was held out and waved towards the gate; then a new cheer, loud and deep, followed. As the train left, the friends at the gate sang "Die Wache am Rhein!" and the young men cried

"Hurrah!" The English bystanders questioned several whether they had been recalled by their Government; but they had received no notice as yet, and left of their own accord. The enthusiasm which animated these volunteers is a strong proof that on the Prussian side devotion and earnestness will not be wanting.

PROPOSED TREATY BETWEEN FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

The *Times*, on Monday, published the following as the text of a treaty between France and Prussia, which was, it is said, proposed by the former Power:—

His Majesty the King of Prussia and his Majesty the



READING THE DECLARATION OF WAR AT A RAILWAY STATION IN FRANCE.

Emperor of the French, deeming it useful to draw closer the bonds of friendship which unite them, and to consolidate the relations of good fellowship (*bon voisinage*) happily existing between the two countries; and being convinced, on the other hand, that to attain this result, which is calculated besides to assure the maintenance of the general peace, it behoves them to come to an understanding on questions which concern their future relations, have resolved to conclude a treaty to this effect, and named, in consequence, as their plenipotentiaries the following: These having exchanged their full powers, found to be in good and proper form, are agreed on the following articles:

Art. 1. His Majesty the Emperor of the French admits and recognises the acquisitions which Prussia has made as the result of the last war which she sustained against Austria and her allies.

Art. 2. His Majesty the King of Prussia promises to facilitate the acquisition of Luxembourg by France. To that

effect his aforesaid Majesty will enter into negotiations with his Majesty the King of the Netherlands to induce him to cede to the Emperor of the French his sovereign rights over this duchy, in return for such compensation as shall be deemed sufficient or otherwise. On his part, the Emperor of the French engages to bear the pecuniary charges which this transaction may occasion.

Art. 3. His Majesty the Emperor of the French will not oppose a federal union of the Confederation of the North with the Southern States of Germany, with the exception of Austria, which union may be based on a common Parliament, provided the sovereignty of the said States is duly respected.

Art. 4. On his part his Majesty the King of Prussia, in case his Majesty the Emperor of the French should be obliged by circumstances to cause his troops to enter Belgium or to conquer her, will accord the succour of his arms to France, and will sustain her with all his forces of land and sea against every Power which, in that eventuality, shall declare war upon her.

Art. 5. To ensure the complete execution of the above arrangements, his Majesty the King of Prussia and his Majesty the Emperor of the French contract, by the present treaty, an alliance offensive and defensive, which they solemnly engage to maintain. Their Majesties undertake beyond this and specially to observe it in every case where their respective States, of which they mutually guarantee their integrity, shall be menaced by aggression, holding themselves bound in such a conjuncture to make without delay and not to decline on any pretext the military arrangements which may be demanded by their common interest conformably to the clauses and provisions above set forth.

On Monday the Fusilier Guards stationed at Windsor, under the command of Colonel Lord Abinger, and the Eton College Volunteers, under the command of Captain Warre, marched to the Home Park, where Lord Abinger put them through a variety of field-day manoeuvres, to his entire satisfaction.

BIRTHS.

On the 26th inst., at the residence of her father, St. Omer, the wife of Vice-Admiral the Hon. G. F. Hastings, C.B., of a daughter.

On the 25th inst., at 17, Bolton-street, London, the wife of James Thorpe, Esq., of Beaconsfield, of a son.

On the 25th inst., at London-road, Enfield, the wife of William Brown, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 23rd inst., at St. Stephen's, Bayswater, by the Rev. Harvey I. Brook, Vicar, Edmund Walter Gybbon Spilsbury, resident engineer of the Austro-Belgian Company, to Rosa Hooper, youngest daughter of John H. Smith, Esq., late of Gresham-street. No cards.

On the 21st inst., at Boughton Monchelsea, by the Rev. Samuel Shepherd, M.A., Vicar, the Rev. John Young Stratton, Rector of Ditton, Kent, to Anne Louisa, youngest daughter of Robert Cuninghame Taylor, Esq., of Boughton-place, Kent.

On the 20th inst., at the Church of the Messiah, Broad-street Birmingham, by Mr. George Dawson, M.A., William Henry, son of the late Mr. Frederick Ryland, of that town, to Alice Felicia, daughter of Mr. Edward D. Wilmot, of Ley Hall, Handsworth. No cards.

DEATHS.

On the 23rd inst., at 155, Maids-vale, the Rev. Sidney Henry Widdrington, Vicar of St. Mark's, Hamilton-terrace, St. John's-wood, only surviving son of the late Lieutenant-General Sir David Latimer Tindling Widdrington, K.C.H., aged 66. Friends will please accept this intimation.

On the 10th inst., suddenly, at Chichester, Melrose, Archibald Scott, Esq., son of the late John Scott, of Gala, N.B.

On the 21st inst., of apoplexy, William Brown, Esq., of Conduit Lodge, Blackheath Park; and 11 and 12, Love-lane, Aldermanbury, aged 51. Friends will please accept this intimation.

On the 26th inst., at 12, Osborne-terrace, Edinburgh, Jane Martha, the beloved wife of Thomas Scott, aged 35 years. Friends will please to accept this intimation.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 6.

SUNDAY, July 31.—Seventh Sunday after Trinity. Divine Service: St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Rev. Prebendary Charles Mackenzie, M.A., Rector of Allhallows, Lombard-street. Westminster Abbey, special evening service, the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple. Chapels Royal: Whitehall, morning, the Rev. Arthur Holmes, M.A.; afternoon, the Rev. Francis Garden, M.A., the Sub-Dean; Savoy, 11.30 a.m., the Rev. Henry White, M.A., Chaplain of the Savoy, and of the House of Commons; 7.0 p.m., the Rev. Stopford A. Brooke, M.A. Chaplain to her Majesty.

MONDAY, Aug. 1.—Lammas Day. Accession of George I., Elector of Hanover, as King of Great Britain, 1714. Doggett's rowing-match on the Thames.

TUESDAY, 2.—Battle of Blenheim (Marlborough's great victory over the French), 1704. Mail-coaches started by John Palmer, 1784.

WEDNESDAY, 3.—Embarkation of Christopher Columbus to discover a Western World, 1492. Meetings: Royal Agricultural Society, noon; Royal Horticultural Society: fruit and floral meeting, 11 a.m.; general meeting, 3 p.m.; promenade, 4 p.m.

THURSDAY, 4.—Battle of Evesham (total defeat of the Barons; their leader, Simon de Montfort, slain), 1265. Moon's first quarter, 5.51 p.m.

FRIDAY, 5.—St. Oswald, king and martyr, 642. Erection of the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, begun by Mr. S. Laing, 1852. The Thames Embankment Bill passed, 1862.

SATURDAY, 6.—The Transfiguration of our Lord. H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh born, 1844. Royal Horticultural Society promenade, 4 p.m.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE

FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 6.

| Sunday. | Monday. | Tuesday. | Wednesday. | Thursday. | Friday. | Saturday. |
|---------|---------|----------|------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m |
| 3 55 | 4 14 | 4 33 | 4 54 | 5 16 | 5 39 | 5 59 |
| 6 24 | 6 43 | 7 02 | 7 23 | 7 46 | 8 10 | 8 34 |
| 8 49 | 9 08 | 9 27 | 9 48 | 10 12 | 10 37 | 11 01 |

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

may be BOUGHT in PARIS, at 70 centimes (about 7d.) the ordinary Number, of Messrs. XAVIER and BOYVEAU, 22, Rue de la Banque.

The same firm will supply this Journal for three months at the following rates:—In France, 10 francs; in Italy, Spain, and Switzerland, 12 francs.

The wholesale prices may be obtained of Messrs. Xavier and Boyveau; or at 198, Strand, London.

THIS DAY THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER

COLOURS will CLOSE their THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION at the Gallery, 53, Pall-mall West. From Nine till Dusk. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. JAMES FAHEY, Sec.

DORE GALLERY.—GUSTAVE DORE, 35, New Bond-street.—EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, including CHRISTIAN MARTYRS, MONASTERY, TRIUMPH OF CHRISTIANITY, and FRANCESCA DE RIMINI, at the New Gallery. Open Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION at Aix-la-Chapelle, TO BE OPENED at the beginning of OCTOBER, 1870. Prospectuses, Plan of Lectures, and Conditions of Admission may be had on application to the Director, and from Mr. T. A. MAYER, Bookseller at Aix-la-Chapelle.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—ODD FELLOWS' GREAT DAY, MONDAY NEXT, AUG. 1. Come early by Road or Rail. Innumerable Attractions. One Shilling. Children half price.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—NEXT MONDAY, Great Day of the MANCHESTER UNITY ODD FELLOWS. On the Great Stage in Centre Transept the following Entertainments will be given by Mr. Nelson Lee:—Laughable Ballet, in which the clever Fred Evans, Miss Amy Rosalind, Tom Lovell, and others will appear. The wonderful Royal Tycoon Troupe of Japanese, recently so successful at the Palace. Mr. J. H. Stead, "The Perfect Cure." Harry Rickards, W. H. Milburn, and Miss Anna Adams, and other Comic Singers. The Japanese Jugglers. Chaplin's Juvenile Rustic Ballet. Young America. The marvellous Child Gymnast on the Bicycle; and other Amusements.

Orchestral Band and Festival Organ. Fine-Arts and Industrial Courts, Tropical Plants, Gigantic Ferns, Fountains Playing, Water Lilies, Monkey House, Parrots, &c. Park and Gardens refreshingly beautiful. The Flower Beds on Terrace and round Roccery should now be seen by Everybody.

Boating, Cricket, Croquet, Velocipeding, Quoits, and every Outdoor Amusement. Several Bands for Dancing on the Lawns. "The best Shilling's-worth in the world." Palace Open from Nine in the Morning. Great additional facilities by regular trains, as well as special trains as required, and Excursions as advertised.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—AUGUST—Excursion Month.—For

terms of Admission (with or without railway conveyance) for Societies, Firms, Schools, and other large parties, apply to the Secretary.

The Park and Gardens, refreshingly by rain, never more beautiful.

Monday, Aug. 1.—ODD FELLOWS' Great Day. For Amusements see Special Bills and Advertisements. Come early and have a long day's enjoyment.

Tuesday and Thursday—Shilling Opera, under the direction of Mr. George Perren. "The Quaker" and "The Waterman" on Tuesday, and "The Trollop" on Thursday.

Wednesday and Friday—The Royal Tycoon Troupe of Japanese in their marvellous Feats of Balancing.

"No Japanese Troupe which has hitherto appeared in this country has ever gained such warm approval."

Thursday—Magnificent Pyrotechnic Display and Grand Illumination of Great and other Fountains. Egyptian Salute, Cataract of Fire, Descent of Comet, Mammoth Shells, &c.

The 50,000 visitors present on the last occasion were most enthusiastic in their applause and expressions of delight. All were enabled leisurely to leave by rail or road before eleven o'clock.

Notwithstanding the enormous preparation required and the consequent great cost, this Grand Display will be given without increasing the usual One Shilling admission charge.

Monday to Friday, One Shilling, or by Guinea Season-Tickets—present issue dating to Aug. 1, 1871 (thus including all the Great Fêtes of next season, and the Great Centenary Celebration of Sir Walter Scott), at all entrances, 2, Exeter Hall, and usual agents.

Saturday—Sullivan's Comic Operetta, "Cox and Box," will be performed in the Theatre, for the first time at the Crystal Palace. Afternoon Promenade, as usual. Admission, 2s. 6d., or 1y. Guinea Season-Tickets, 5s. 6d.

Fire-Arts Courts, Picture-Gallery, Fountains Playing, Orchestral Band, and Festival Organ daily.

NOTE.—The Court of War Material—containing Chassepots, Needle-Guns, the Martini-Henry, &c., Maps, Photographs, Models, &c., of everything of interest connected with the present War—open free.

The Views of Ruins and Restorations of Pompeii, by new Photo-Sculptural Process, should be seen by all. Admission, 6d.

THE CHRISTY MINSTRELS.—ST. JAMES'S HALL.

Every Night, Eight; Wednesdays and Saturdays, Three and Eight, all the year round. This Hall is now perfectly ventilated and delightfully cool, no matter how crowded it may be. Entirely New Programme of Songs, Ballads, &c., this Week. Fantouils, 5s.; Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Children under Twelve Half Price to Stalls and Area only. Places may be secured and Tickets obtained at Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street; Keith and Prowse, Chesapeake; Hays, Royal Exchange. No fees of any description whatever. Doors open at 2.30 for Day, 7.30 for Evening Performance. Sole Proprietors—Messrs. George W. Moore and Frederick Burgess. General Manager—Mr. Frederick Burgess.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate.—Sole

Proprietor, Mr. John Douglass.—On MONDAY, AUG. 1, and During the Week, the great Adelphi Drama, PUT YOURSELF IN HIS PLACE, supported by the entire Company from the Royal Adelphi Theatre, with Scenery and Effects. Concluding with THE LOAN OF A LOVER.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1870.

"Mr. Dick," in "David Copperfield," finds it impossible to keep out of his memorial perpetual reference to that unfortunate Monarch Charles I. A journalist at the present time finds it as impossible to exclude from his article, let its subject be what it may, all allusion to the war. At this period of the year men and women are usually very happy to begin formally to dismiss thoughts of business and of still more wearying pleasure, and to prepare in earnest for a real holiday. The Continental "Bradshaw" and Mr. Stanford's maps are in daily requisition, and the agreeable occupation of sketching routes employs many an evening. The younger branches of the family are reminded that much money has been spent in teaching them French and German, and that they will be expected to display those accomplishments at hotels and railway stations. In short, there is a very pleasant but slightly anxious period of discussion and prevision among well-to-do people during the days when the ungrateful nation is watching for the demise of the Parliamentary Session. But the war has come, and all is changed. The Continent is almost closed, and quite so practically. A severe lesson is read to the insular Philistines, who sneer at interest in foreign politics, and who ask what Continental affairs can concern English people. Now they have found out, and very likely think it great insolence on the part of foreigners to go to war at a time of year when respectable persons and their couriers want to travel.

We have the situation, however, and must make the best of it. We are all driven to English and Scottish watering-places. Yes, all, even the lofty-minded persons who have been accustomed to condemn the Yorkshire coast and the Caledonian Canal, just as smart clerks and the like condemn Gravesend and Southend. It is of no use to look haughtily at the map of Europe. War-ships are steaming about, harbours are blockaded, most of the railway trains will be taken off and transferred to the lines giving on the scene of war, and only soldiers and stores will be carried by the trains that are left. But there is Italy? No doubt; and the last telegram is that the French troops are wanted in France, and that Italy must take care of the Pope, if he is to be taken care of at all. Then, Spain? It is not a pleasant country to travel in, at the best of times; but now, between the chances of a counter-revolution and a visit from a French army that takes observations at short range, Spain will be less pleasant than ever. Switzerland? The Swiss mountains are safe enough from the soldiers; but how to get away at need? We read that it can easily be managed, but there is no guarantee for a week's certainty. The north of Europe is clearly menaced; and at this moment some of the Parisians believe that the Emperor himself intends to head his fleet and scourge all kinds of Saxons with his turret-guns. There is nothing but America—and the English watering-places; and America is a good way off.

Therefore is there vast rejoicing in all the sea-places where lodgings are let, and where there are hotels, bad or good. Doubt not that the British landlord will be equal to the occasion, and that the British landlady will be superior to it. These persons have a curious way of calculating their charges, based on the idea that their year is like that of Mercury, and that their hay must be made during a single revolution of that planet. This year a second computation has to be connected with the first—there has not been a European war for four years, and there may not be another for as many more; therefore be still more assiduous at the haymaking. Strangers will be made to pay hugely, there is no doubt of that; but there will probably be an increase of carelessness and impertinence on the part of the hosts, for there will be so many strangers that the giving offence will be running no risk. Visitors must be prepared for all this. In the old days travellers who took refuge in an inn because there was a storm were never much cared for, and there was a rather profane name given to them. Those who are driven to the English resorts because the Continent is closed by the war storm will find themselves much in the same condition. We advise them to be good-tempered and philosophical, not to make very audible and contemptuous comparisons of what they get and what they see with what they got and what they saw at "that lovely hotel" at Baden; and not to wish, in the hearing of the clumsy and ugly waiter, that they were being served by the adroit François or the merry Adolf whom they liked so much at Thun. Let them order few outlandish dishes, and make as little disturbance as is convenient when those they have risked turn out failures. Let them not be very furious because the lighter wines, for which they will not pay lightly, are much worse than the rough cheap liquors which they got in the heart of the countries where such things are produced. On the whole, too, it may be as well to go to church on Sundays, and, at all events, not to dance and play cards on Sunday evenings. War has its martyrs, and our afflicted friends must take

their share of the martyrdom—only they must remember that the genuine martyr is not recalcitrant, does not rattle his chains furiously, or use bad language against the executioner. There will be a great demand for patience this year on the part of those who are cabined and confined to the island; and we hope that the supply will equal the demand. We are aware that to a discomforted person it is small solace to be told that things might have been worse; yet there is something in that, though. Suppose we had war here, and our sons had to go to the battle, and our stores were pillaged in the name of the army! It is a gentler visitation that our peace amounts to dulness, that our sons are bored to death at a stupid watering-place, and that we are only plundered by means of a bill, against which we can rave without any danger of being bayoneted for unpatriotism.

All persons do not travel merely because it is fashionable, or because they do not know what to do with themselves. Very many travel for higher purposes, and, at lowest, for the gratification of a laudable curiosity. We have some sympathy with this class, especially with such of its members as are of the real "working men," the professional order. It is a nuisance to a man of an active mind and of cultivated habits of observation to be compelled to stick in a British watering-place, fetch and carry novels of the oldest and stupidest sort, and fancy he can find "a character" in a stupid boatman. We have sympathy for him, we repeat, but no consolation. He must make up his mind to be bored. Perhaps, if he liked to resume his classic studies with the aid of those excellent analyses of classic authors with which Mr. Anthony Trollope and others

Teach mankind as though they taught them not,

And things unknown propose as things forgot,

he might help out the time; and, if he likes the sea, it is very easy to sleep while pretending to fish. But plainly, we own that the educated man's case is a hard one this year. For the mere athletic there are always enormous walks to be done, and the lounge will find billiard-tables everywhere. Women do not demand our compassion; they are never bored, and the woman who declares herself bored is not thoroughbred. They will not be found the most discontented of those who are debarred from Continental excursion and disappointed. The persons who will make the most noise about it, and will be most frivolous and heartless in their way of speaking of the war, will be those who derive the least possible advantage from travel, and of whom nobody can possibly care what becomes, save that everybody is glad when they take themselves and their whims and follies out of the way. These will be the torment of domestic circles that would but for them be resigned, if not cheerful, though the Continent is closed. However, these torments and the rest must be endured, for Kings will fight. We hope to have a pleasanter address for our departing friends in the last week of next July.

THE COURT.

The Queen, with the junior members of the Royal family, continues to reside at Osborne House. Princess Victoria and Princess Maude of Wales remain with her Majesty at the Isle of Wight.

On Sunday the Queen, Princess Louisa, Prince Arthur, and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service, performed at Osborne by the Rev. George Prothero. The Marquis of Hartington arrived at Osborne and dined with her Majesty.

On Monday Prince Arthur, attended by Colonel Elphinstone and Lieutenant Pickard, came to London. In the evening his Royal Highness went to the Haymarket Theatre. The Marquis of Hartington left Osborne.

The Queen, with the members of the Royal family, has taken her customary daily drives.

The Queen has appointed Charles Marquis of Huntly to be one of the Lords in Waiting in Ordinary to her Majesty, in the room of the Earl of Camperdown, resigned.

The Hon. Florence Seymour has succeeded the Hon. Mary Lascelles as Maid of Honour in Waiting to the Queen.

ROYAL PROCLAMATIONS AT EDINBURGH.

Two proclamations by the Queen were published, on Saturday last, at the Edinburgh Market Cross. The first summoned all the peers of Scotland to meet at Holyrood House on Aug. 4 next, in order to elect a peer to sit and vote in the House of Lords, in room of the late Earl of Haddington. The second enjoined the strict neutrality of all her Majesty's subjects in reference to the war between France and Prussia. The heralds, pursuivants, and Queen's trumpeters for Scotland met at the County Courthouse, George IV. Bridge, and proceeded thence to the Market Cross, escorted by a guard of honour from the 90th Regiment of Light Infantry, with military band. Mr. Kenmure Maitland, Sheriff-Clerk, accompanied the procession as returning officer. The peer's election proclamation was read by Marchmont Herald, and responded by Bute Pursuivant; the neutrality proclamation was read by Albany Herald and responded by Bute Pursuivant.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel Ellis and Mr. Knollys, left Marlborough House, yesterday (Friday) week, for Grimsby, en route for Denmark, in order to join the Princess and her family at Fredensborg Castle. The Prince passed off Elsinore at half-past ten o'clock on Monday morning, and arrived at Copenhagen the same night.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS CHRISTIAN.

Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, attended by Lady Susan Melville and Captain the Hon. Charles Eliot, left Frogmore House, yesterday (Friday) week, for Malvern. Their Royal Highnesses drove to the Windsor station of the Great Western Railway, and travelled thence in a state saloon attached to the 9.45 a.m. train to Slough, and thence to Malvern, where the Prince and Princess continue to sojourn.

DEPARTURE OF THE GRAND DUKE AND GRAND DUCHESS OF MECKLENBURG-STRELITZ FOR GERMANY.

The Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, accompanied by their son, the hereditary Prince

Adolphus, who arrived in England, on Thursday week, from his travels in China and other distant parts of the globe, left St. James's Palace, on Saturday last, en route for Germany—their Royal Highnesses' visit to the Duchess of Cambridge having been suddenly brought to a close in consequence of the war between France and Prussia. The Duke of Cambridge accompanied their Royal Highnesses to the Charing-cross terminus. The Grand Duke and Grand Duchess travelled by the Continental express-train, on the South-Eastern Railway, to Dover, attended by Lady Caroline Cust and Lord Frederick Paulet. Their Royal Highnesses embarked on board her Majesty's steamer *Enchantress* for Ostend; but, the tide being unfavourable, the Royal travellers did not leave Dover until four o'clock on Sunday morning.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge left town on Monday for Goodwood, to pass a few days with the Duke and Duchess of Richmond.

Her Highness Princess Czernicheff and Princess Marie Czernicheff have left the Buckingham Palace Hotel for Cleve-lands, Isle of Wight.

The Duke of Buccleuch and the Earl of Dalkeith have left town for Edinburgh, to join the militia.

The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn and Lady Georgiana Hamilton left town on Wednesday to pass a few weeks at Leamington Spa.

Marquis and Marchioness Hamilton arrived in town, on Monday, from Eastwell Park, Kent.

The Marquis of Bute has given a bell and funds for the erection of a belfry for St. Mary's Catholic Church, Capetown.

The Marquis of Ailesbury, Viscount Falmouth, and Earl Annesley left town on Monday for Goodwood, to join the party visiting the Duke and Duchess of Richmond.

The Earl and Countess of Sefton have arrived at Croxteth Hall, Lancashire, from visiting the Earl and Countess of Coventry, at Croome Court, near Upton.

The Earl and Countess of Sandwich have left their residence in Grosvenor-square for Hinchbrook House, Hunts.

The Earl and Countess of Aylesford have left their residence in Grosvenor-street for Packington Hall, Coventry.

The Earl and Countess of Home and the Ladies Home have left their residence in Grosvenor-square for The Hirsell, near Coldstream.

Earl and Countess Stanhope have left town for Chevening, Kent.

Countess Cawdor has returned from the Continent.

The Countess of Wilton left town on Monday for Southampton, to join his Lordship on board his yacht at Cowes.

The Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe has left the Clarendon Hotel.

Count Andrew Bernstorff, who has been appointed secretary to the North German Embassy, arrived at Prussia House on Saturday.

The Count de Blome has left the Clarendon Hotel for the Continent.

Viscount and Viscountess Polington left town on Monday for the Continent.

Lord and Lady Lindsay and Prince and Princess Teano left town on Sunday for Haigh Hall, near Wigan, the seat of the Earl and Countess of Crawford and Balcarres, to be present at a series of entertainments, given this week, by the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, to celebrate the marriage of Lord and Lady Lindsay. The celebration was prevented taking place before, owing to the death of the venerable Earl of Crawford and Balcarres. The whole of the tenantry, school children, and the large mining population employed on their estate in Lancashire have been entertained. The Earl and Countess of Crawford and Balcarres and the Ladies Lindsay have since left for the Highlands.

FASHIONABLE AND POLITICAL ENTERTAINMENTS.

His Excellency the Turkish Ambassador entertained a distinguished company at dinner, on Tuesday evening, at the Turkish Embassy in Bryanston-square. After dinner his Excellency received a select party.

Earl and Countess Granville entertained a large party at dinner on Saturday, including several members of the diplomatic corps, at their residence in Bruton-street.

Viscount and Viscountess Sydney received a select circle at dinner, on Tuesday, at their residence in Cleveland-square.

Viscountess Combermere had an evening party, on Tuesday, at her residence in Belgrave-square. A select company assembled.

Lady Holland's fourth afternoon party took place, on Wednesday, at Holland House, Kensington.

Mrs. Henry Bruce's second assembly took place on Wednesday.

Mr. Cornwallis West, of Ruthin Castle, North Wales, gave a dinner party, at his house in Eaton-place, on Saturday.

Failing health has compelled Professor J. E. Cairnes to send in his resignation of the Chair of Jurisprudence and Political Economy at Queen's College, Galway.

The English Census of 1871 is to show "the name, sex, age, rank, profession or occupation, condition, relation to head of family, and birthplace of every living person who abode in every house on the night of Sunday, April 2, 1871; and also whether any are blind or deaf or dumb." Measures will also be taken for ascertaining the number of persons travelling or, for any other reason, not abiding in any house. An account of houses will also be taken, occupied or uninhabited, or building. There will be a penalty for making a false return or refusing to make any.

Another demonstration to express sympathy with France took place at Sandymount, near Dublin, on Sunday. About 20,000 persons, all of the lower class, assembled, with upwards of fifteen bands, the men being dressed in green and carrying tricolour, American, and green flags. There were no speeches delivered, and the assembly promenaded about two hours, the bands playing incessantly. A similar demonstration was held at Harold's Cross, but was a comparative failure, about 2000 persons being present. Four bands played. The proceedings collapsed in half an hour. The bands of both assemblies marched home in procession, playing. The police did not interfere. A demonstration took place also at Cork. About 6000 persons were present, and amongst the speakers was Alderman O'Sullivan, whose resignation of the mayoralty of Cork about fourteen months ago will not have been forgotten. Repeated cheers were given for France and Ireland, and references to M'Mahon evoked great enthusiasm. After the meeting a procession was formed, and went through the city with the tricolour in front. No policemen were visible throughout the proceedings.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The Queen has approved Mr. Adam Badeau as Consul-General in London for the United States of America.

Miss Burdett Coutts, on Wednesday, laid the foundation-stone of a national school for the parish of St. Anne, Highgate-rise, having given the site for the building.

Mr. Carlyle has been nominated unanimously to the office of President of the London Library, in place of the late Earl of Clarendon. The office of trustee, rendered vacant by Lord Clarendon's death, has been accepted by Lord Lyttelton.

There were in the metropolis last week 39,936 indoor paupers and 94,374 in the receipt of outdoor relief in the metropolis, a total of 127,314—an increase of 3246 above last year, the increase being chiefly in the outdoor poor.

On Wednesday the annual meeting of the Royal Society for the Protection of Life from Fire was held at Guildhall—the Lord Mayor presiding. According to the report the society has been enabled, during the past year, materially to extend the basis of its operations.

During last week 4153 lb. of meat were seized as unfit for human food, consisting of four sheep, five pigs, eighteen quarters of beef, and 323 joints of meat—all of which were destroyed. Of this, 1499 lb. were diseased, 2266 lb. putrid, and 88 lb. from animals that had died of accident or disease.

Colonel Henderson has issued his first annual report of the metropolitan police force—the first document of the kind ever published. Attached are reports of the various district superintendents, and details with reference to every division, together with the Chief Commissioner's remarks on the conduct, drill, and discipline of the police force, and other matters.

A large meeting of German residents in London was held, on Tuesday, at the Cannon-street Hotel—Baron von Schröder in the chair. A fund was established in aid of the sick and wounded of the German army, and a committee of City merchants was appointed to receive and disburse the subscriptions. About £16,000 has been promised.

The Court of Common Council has granted £105 to the Association for Promoting the Welfare of the Blind, £52 10s. to Queen Adelaide's Dispensary, £105 to the Sailors' Orphan Girls' School and Home; £26 5s. to St. Paul's Ragged School, Southwark; £105 to the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, and £105 to the Finsbury Dispensary.

Yesterday week the Hon. Francis Charteris, eldest son of Lord Elcho, was shot by his own hand, but whether accidentally or otherwise cannot be known. He ordered breakfast to be got ready for him, and when summoned was found shot through the head, and a revolver lying by his side. He was only twenty-six years old, and had long been in bad health. He died on Thursday last.

The annual meeting of the committee of the Newspaper Press Fund was held on Wednesday, under the presidency of Lord Houghton. The report stated that the invested capital of £5100 would shortly be increased by the purchase of £400 additional stock; that the grants made to members in the past year amounted altogether to £162, and that the roll-book of the society comprised 240 members, 172 of whom are resident in London, and the remainder in the country.

A fire, attended with terrible consequences, broke out last Saturday morning on the premises of Mr. Hill, a furniture-dealer, in the Waterloo-road. So rapid was the progress of the flames that the proprietor and his wife had to leap from a second-floor window, the latter with an infant in her arms. Six other children of Mr. and Mrs. Hill were sleeping in the attic, and were burnt to death, notwithstanding the most strenuous exertions of the firemen.

The Commander-in-Chief, attended by Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, General Sir Hope Grant, Colonel Egerton, Deputy Adjutant-General to the Forces, and others, inspected the two battalions of Coldstream Guards, numbering about 1400 men, in Hyde Park, on Monday morning. The manoeuvres consisted of skirmishing, volley-firing, marching past in grand divisions and by companies. The ground was kept by the Grenadier, Fusilier, and 2nd Life Guards.

The annual dinner of the Cobden Club took place, last Saturday, at the Ship Tavern, Greenwich—Mr. Gladstone in the chair. In proposing the toast of the day, the Premier alluded to the impending conflict on the Continent, and expressed his opinion that "among all the wars by which the nineteenth century has been chequered there had been none more unspcakably tragic, more unmixedly sorrowful, more full of painful associations, and more grievous in anticipation to those who love their country and mankind, than the war which is at this moment breaking out."

The Marquis of Westminster, who is the president of the Metropolitan Drinking-Fountain and Cattle-Trough Association, makes his annual appeal on behalf of that charity. The necessity of its operations and the relief which it affords to man and beast are evidenced by statistics. More than 1200 horses, besides other animals, frequently drink at one trough in a single day; while more than a quarter of a million people are supposed to drink daily at the fountains. The water consumed at some of the troughs averages from 2000 to 3000 gallons a day, and the amount paid by the society to one water company alone last year was £174.

The friends and supporters of the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic assembled, on Wednesday, at the new convalescent home near the Finchley East-end station, and examined the building and its contents. Subsequently, an opening service was performed by the Rev. John Back, Rector of St. George the Martyr, Holborn, and visitor to the hospital, assisted by the hon. chaplain to the institution, the Rev. Gerard Hallett, deputy Minor Canon of Westminster. The committee appeal to the public for money to enable them not only to avoid debt, but also to extend the operations of the charity, which are already very great.

A thunderstorm passed over the metropolis on Tuesday morning, between six and nine a.m., the clouds travelling almost due north. The rain descended in torrents, and many parts of London were flooded. At about eight o'clock, when the storm was at its highest, the lightning struck and shattered the south-east pinnacle of the tower of St. Saviour's Church, in the Borough. The fall of the lofty pinnacle carried with it one of the flying buttresses, and otherwise injured the sacred edifice. Several other buildings were struck during the storm, which in its course covered an area of many miles.

A return to an order of the House of Commons has been published, and contains the correspondence between the Office of Works and the architect of the new National Gallery, in continuation of the return of March 10 last; likewise the report of the architect on the plan of the new building. This publication comprises several plans and designs for a new gallery; among the latter is one which appears to be a joint production by Mr. Layard and Mr. Gilbert R. Redgrave,

architect. Mr. Murray's design is likewise illustrated, also that of Mr. B. M. Barry. The authorities seem to have decided that there is no need to press for immediate execution any design for a new National Gallery.

The presentation of a handsome testimonial to Colonel Taylor, M.P., was made at a meeting of members of the Carlton Club last Saturday—Mr. Henley, M.P., in the chair. The company consisted of a hundred members of the Conservative party, and the cordial thanks of the meeting were expressed towards Colonel Taylor for the great services rendered by him to his party. The testimonial consists of a splendid oval plateau, enriched with portraits of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli, and crests and groups of the givers; also seven-branched candelabra, adorned with groups of figures, and two dessert-stands. The whole design is about 42 in. in height and 56 in. in length, and has cost about £1200.

The Metropolitan Board of Works has resolved that notice be given to the Metropolitan Sewage and Essex Reclamation Company that the £25,000 deposited with the board is absolutely forfeited. Mr. Huntz said the company had failed to carry out the undertaking, and stood in the way of others utilising the sewage. Mr. Shaw urged that other steps be taken against the company. The chairman said other proceedings would be taken, but to declare the deposit forfeited was the first step. The solicitor was instructed to prepare an amended scheme for dealing with Hackney Downs and other open spaces in the locality, under the provisions of the Metropolitan Commons Act, 1866.

The annual meeting of the governors and friends of the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital was held on Tuesday afternoon—Lord Hylton in the chair. The income for the past year was, including a legacy from Mr. A. Rackham of £500, £1188, and the expenditure £1192. A sum of £1000 had been left at Drummonds' bank for the hospital by an anonymous donor, W. R. T., in December last. The sum of £1000 had also been bequeathed to the hospital by the late Mr. William Hollins, the dividends of which were to be annually paid to the hospital by the trustees in whose names it was lodged, the fund being called the "William Hollins's fund." Last year 230 in-patients and 723 out-patients had been operated upon at the hospital, besides 1028 cases of a minor character arising from accidents. In all 290 new patients had been taken into the hospital, and 9007 treated as out-patients.

The fifth annual general meeting of the Quekett Microscopical Club was held, yesterday week, at University College—Mr. Peter Le Neve Foster, president, in the chair. According to the annual report of the committee, which was read, the club still maintains its popularity and success. It numbers over 500 members, and meets for the prosecution of microscopical inquiry and discussion twice a month throughout the year. Mr. Peter Foster, in vacating the presidential chair, which he had so ably filled during the past year, delivered his valedictory address, in which he called attention to various open questions in microscopical science, which were fields well worth the labour required in their investigation, and which he considered the members might undertake the study of with pleasure to themselves and advantage to the world at large. Professor Lionel S. Beale, F.R.S., was elected president for the ensuing year. The proceedings terminated in a conversazione.

The annual distribution of prizes to the students of the medical school attached to Charing-cross Hospital took place on Monday afternoon in the board-room. The Dean of Westminster presided. Dr. Pollock (the Dean of the hospital), in presenting his annual report, congratulated the school upon its continued prosperity, and adverted specially to the cordial co-operation and good feeling of the hospital authorities. The governors, having secured the possession of two more houses in Chandos-street, would shortly increase the number of beds to 150. The enlargement of the school accommodation would include a new museum, dissecting-room, laboratory, and offices; the whole of which were expected to be completed by Oct. 1 next. The increase in the number of beds would necessitate an addition to the staff, which would strengthen the school, as well as increase the efficiency of the hospital. Dr. Pollock concluded his report by observing that at Charing-cross Hospital the medical student would henceforth find every means of acquiring a thorough knowledge of his profession. Dean Stanley, addressing the assembly, spoke of the agreeable nature of his duties that day, reviving, as they did, the recollection of his own prize days at Rugby and Oxford. He remarked that, so far as the mottoes went, the human mind did not seem to have made much progress during the last twenty years, but in the contents of the papers they had marked significance of the improvements in the profession of medicine. That was almost the only profession to which, especially at this time, they could look for nothing but good.

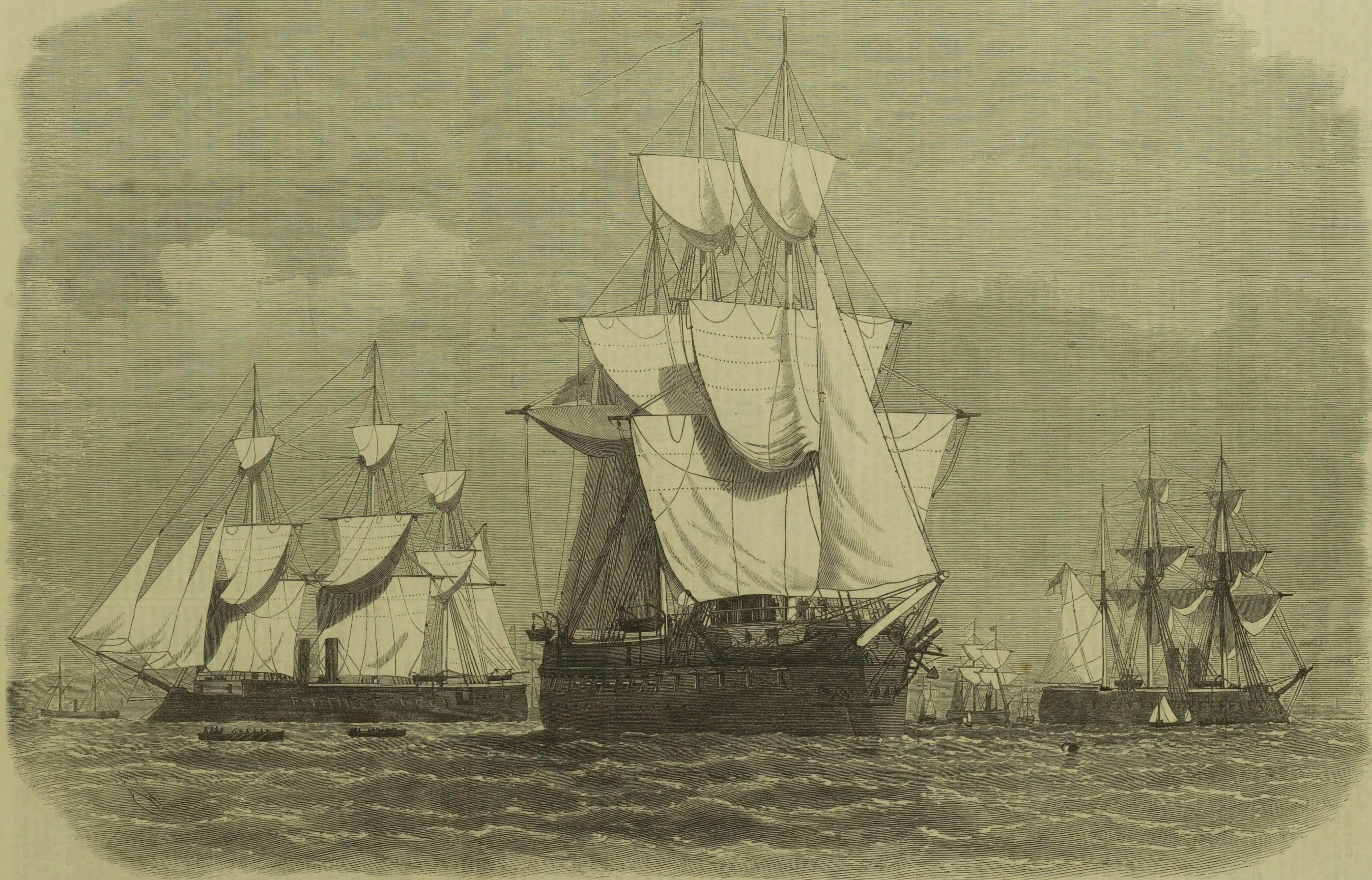
At a meeting of Germans held in Queen-street Hall, Edinburgh, on Monday evening, it was resolved to form a patriotic fund for the relief of such of their fellow-countrymen as may be wounded during the war and to assist their wives and families: £180 was subscribed.

The Treasury returns issued on Tuesday night show that the total receipts from April 1 to July 23 were £19,452,911, as compared with £22,251,007 in the corresponding period last year. The expenditure up to the 23rd inst. was £23,746,097, as compared with £26,100,181 last year.

The Wesleyan Methodist Conference assembled at Burslem elected, on Tuesday, a successor to the retiring president, the Rev. Dr. Johnson. The choice of a considerable majority of the Conference fell upon the Rev. John Farrar, who has previously held the office of president. The Rev. Dr. James was elected secretary. Sir F. Lyett has offered to the Conference to give £10,000 for chapel purposes in London on the condition that an equal sum shall be contributed by the provinces.

The annual meeting of the Royal Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland was opened at Leicester, on Tuesday, when the members of this learned and distinguished society received a hearty welcome at the hands of the local authorities. The inaugural meeting was held at the Townhall. The Mayor presided, and there was a good gathering of local and foreign savans, amongst whom were Lord Talbot de Malahide (president of the congress); the Ven. Archdeacon Trollope, F.S.A.; Lord Neaves, F.S.A. (Scotland); Sir T. E. Winington, Bart.; Mr. J. W. Parker, F.S.A.; Archdeacon Stanton, and Professor Lewis (Cork).

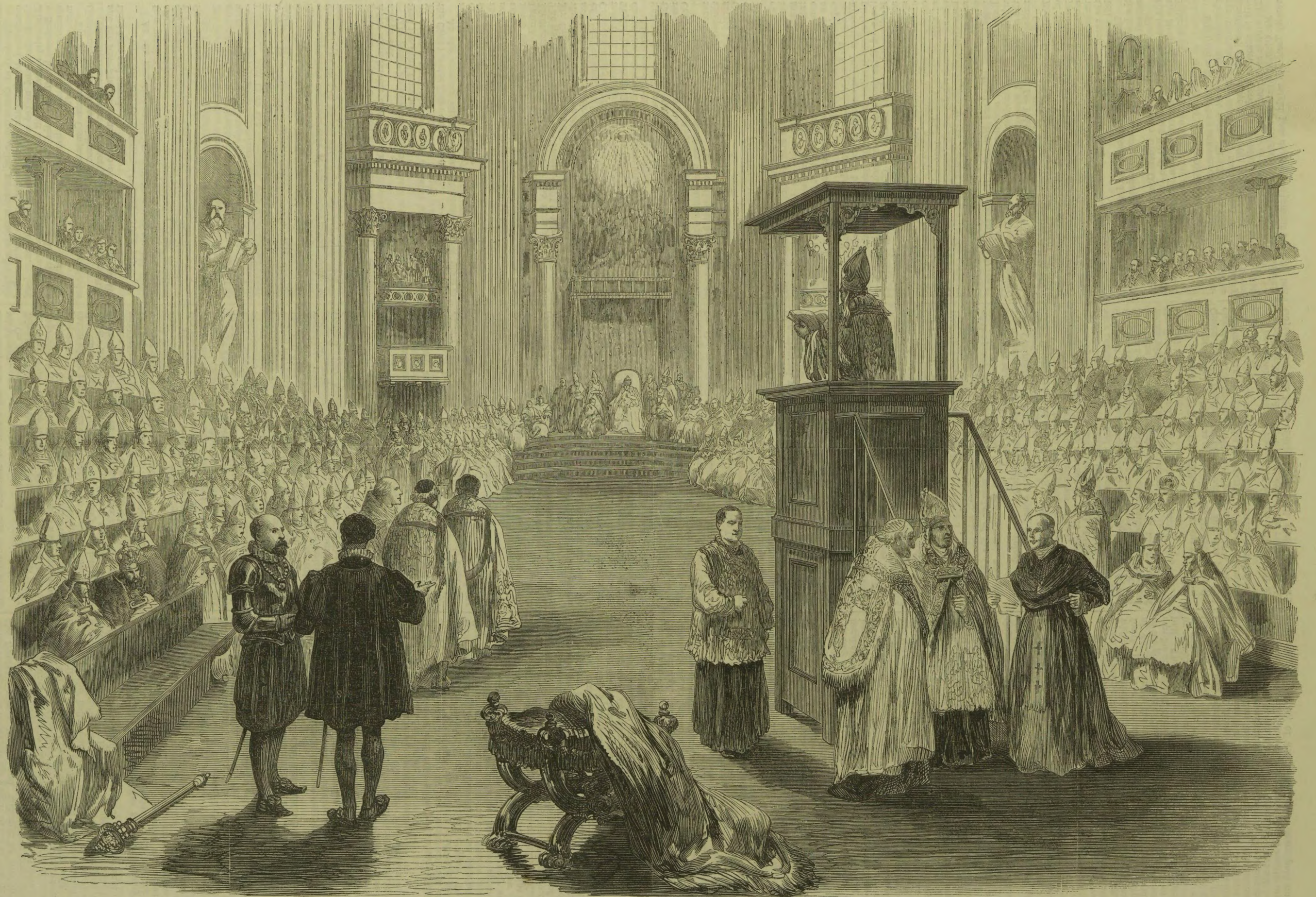
The following notice regarding passports has been issued from the Foreign Office, July 23:—"With reference to the regulation stating that 'passports are issued at the Foreign Office between the hours of eleven and four on the day following that on which the application for the passport has been received at the Foreign Office,' notice is hereby given that, in order to give additional facilities to persons about to travel abroad who may be desirous of obtaining Foreign Office passports, such passports will, until further notice, be delivered on the day of application, provided the applications are in proper form and on payment of the fee of 2s."



KÖNIG WILHELM

PRINZ FRIEDRICH KARL.
THE PRUSSIAN IRON-CLAD FLEET.

KRON PRINZ



PROCLAIMING THE DOGMA OF PAPAL INFALLIBILITY AT ROME.
SEE PAGE 126.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY, JULY 22.

The Elementary Education Bill was brought up from the Commons and read the first time.

The Earl of Carnarvon called attention to the admirable conduct of the Canadian volunteers during the recent raid of the Fenians, and moved a resolution on the subject. Lord Kimberley agreed with all that had been said in praise of the volunteers, but thought the occasion scarcely sufficient for a special resolution. A long discussion followed, after which the motion was withdrawn.

The Life Assurance Companies Bill and the Magistrates (Scotland) Bill were passed through Committee.

The Married Woman's Property Bill, the Tramways Bill, and the New Zealand (Guarantee of Loan) Bill were read the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, JULY 22.

At the morning sitting, Captain Vivian stated, in answer to a question, that the old distinction as to efficient and extra-efficient volunteers would be continued. The promised additional ten shillings of capitation grant would not be given, but arrangements were being made to enable the men to gain five shillings extra.

Mr. Forster moved the third reading of the Education Bill. Mr. Dixon was glad some measure would pass; but he should give notice that next Session he intended to bring in a bill to amend it. Mr. Cowper-Temple defended the measure. Mr. Miall said the Government had refused to listen to the Independent Liberals. And as to the Dissenters, who were almost unanimously opposed to the bill, they had been once bit, and they would be twice shy. He accused the Government of not having fulfilled their pledges. Mr. Gladstone warmly defended the Government, and told Mr. Miall, if he could not conscientiously support them, to give his support elsewhere. The Government could not take a sectional view of the matter; but, being the Government of the Queen, must have regard to the requirements of the whole country. Several members having spoken, Sir J. Pakington, while not thinking the bill perfect, because religion was not in it and the ballot was, had yet much gratitude to the Government for having pressed it through. After some further discussion the bill was read the third time and passed.

The Army Enlistment Bill and the Gun Licenses Bill were read the third time and passed.

After a short discussion on a statue to Lord Gough, the House went into Committee of Supply, and several votes in the Civil Service Estimates were taken.

At the evening sitting a long discussion took place in reference to the refusal of Lord Lyttelton, as Lord Lieutenant of Worcestershire, to appoint two tradesmen to be officers in the Evesham rifle corps. Mr. Taylor moved a resolution on the subject. Mr. Lyttelton explained that it was not on account of any aristocratic or exclusive bias, but on the representation of Colonel Scovell that if the appointments were made they would not be regarded with satisfaction by the battalion, that the commissions were not signed by the Lord Lieutenant, who was, consequently, free from responsibility. The speakers who followed—Colonel H. Lindsay, Mr. Knight, Mr. Cardwell, and Sir J. Pakington—all concurred in thinking that no imputation whatever rested on the Lord Lieutenant, and in expressing their strong disapproval of the introduction of social distinctions in a force like the volunteers, where, as Colonel Lindsay observed, the son of the Duke and the young man from behind the counter met on a perfect equality. Mr. Taylor, intimating that he was satisfied with the tone of the discussion, consented to withdraw his motion.

After a conversation on the subject of competitive examinations for employment in the Indian Civil Service, and on the Turnpike Acts Continuance Bill, the House once more resumed the consideration of the Civil Service Estimates in Committee of Supply, and several votes were taken.

A debate then took place on the motion for the second reading of the Census Bill. The question at issue was as to the possibility of a religious census. Mr. Bruce said he was afraid it would not be done compulsorily. The bill was read the second time.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe called attention to the draught of a proposed treaty between France and Prussia, which had been published in the *Times* that morning, and asked if it was genuine. Earl Granville said the Government had no information as to the source from whence the document had come; but their conviction was that it was such a document as must elicit from the Governments mentioned in it full explanations immediately.

Earl De Grey and Ripon moved the second reading of the Education Bill in a speech of some length, in which he explained and justified the principal provisions of the measure. Some of these provisions were criticised by the Duke of Marlborough. The Bishop of Gloucester was ready to acquiesce in the measure, but he could not bring himself to speak of it in any warm terms of approbation. The Earl of Shaftesbury, however, regarded the bill as the best which could have been produced under the circumstances; and he, as well as those who had preceded him in debate, spoke almost enthusiastically of the courage and skill which had been displayed by Mr. W. E. Forster in framing the measure and carrying it through the House of Commons. The Duke of Richmond gave notice of amendments which he intends to propose; and, after Lord Howard of Glossop and the Duke of Rutland had called attention to some features of the bill to which they entertain objections, and Lord De Grey had replied, the second reading was agreed to without a division, the Committee being fixed for Friday.

On the third reading of the Judicial Committee Bill, Lord Romilly renewed his objection to the small scale of payment of the new Judges. Lord Cairns thought the question had, perhaps, better be left to the House of Commons. He moved a clause limiting the operation of the Act until Jan. 1, 1873, unless Parliament should otherwise determine. On a division, the amendment was negatived by 72 votes against 16, and the bill was then passed.

The Commons' amendments to the Lords' amendments to the Irish Land Bill were next considered, and substantially agreed to.

The Piers and Harbours Orders Confirmation (No. 2) Bill, the Gas and Water Facilities Bill, the Judicial Committee Bill, the Medical Officers' Superannuation Bill, and the Curragh of Kildare Bill were read the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

Mr. Cardwell made two announcements which are of considerable interest just now. The first was that our facilities for manufacturing small-arm ammunition are practically limitless; and the second that the whole of the reserve forces will be armed as speedily as possible with breech-loading rifles. The militia are already largely supplied with the weapon.

Mr. Gladstone said he still clung to the hope that the University Tests Bill might pass during the present Session; but

the withdrawal of the High Court of Justice and Appellate Jurisdiction Bills, the Pilotage Bill, and the Medical Act (1858) Amendment Bill was announced; and Mr. Bruce recommended that the Sequestration Bill, the Registration of Benefices Bill, and the Union of Benefices Bill should also be withdrawn.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. Disraeli called attention to the draught treaty in the *Times*. He complained of the delay in the production of the correspondence relating to the war, and said it was inexplicable to him. He asked at what time the alleged treaty had been proposed. Mr. Gladstone explained that the delay in the publication of the papers was unavoidable. It would be found that they came up to the very day on which they were laid on the table. As to the draught treaty, it was an extraordinary document, and appeared to be incredible. The Government had no information in respect to whence it had come; but its publication must elicit from the two Governments concerned full explanation and elucidation. For this the House and the country could not have long to wait.

A motion by Sir C. Dilke to abolish the office of Lord Privy Seal was, after some discussion, rejected by 170 votes to 60.

The other subjects to which attention was directed were the Southampton entrance to Richmond Park; the plan for the enlargement of the National Gallery; and the relations between the Cape Colony, the South African Republic, and the Orange Free State. These disposed of, the House went into Committee of Supply, and speedily became engaged in an animated discussion upon the vote for the alteration of the refreshment-rooms of the two Houses of Parliament. The whole question of the propriety of the arrangements proposed by the Chief Commissioner, and the manner in which he had treated Mr. Barry, was raised in the course of the discussion; but in the end the vote was carried without a division. The whole of the votes in class 1 were subsequently agreed to, as were those remaining over in class 2. The only serious opposition offered was to an item of £1560 for Queen's Plates in Ireland. Mr. Rylands moved the rejection of the vote, and found a seconder in Mr. Lusk; but on a division it was sanctioned by 81 to 61.

Some progress was made with a long list, consisting of thirty-eight orders of the day.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

Questions were again asked and answered in regard to the "Project of Treaty." Lord Granville stated that Lord A. Loftus had been informed at Berlin that the "project" was genuine and in M. Benedetti's handwriting; and that the Marquis de Lavalette had called upon him to say that the project originated with Count Bismarck, had been discussed between him and M. Benedetti, but had never had any serious basis, and had been rejected by both parties. M. de Lavalette added assurances of good feeling on the part of France towards England and Belgium.

The Clerical Disabilities Bill, permitting clergymen to resume the status of ordinary laymen, was read the second time.

The Settled Estates Bill, the Wages Arrestment Limitation (Scotland) Bill, and the Juries Bill were passed through Committee.

The Sugar Duties (Isle of Man) Bill, the Stamp Duty on Leases Bill, and one or two other measures, were read the third time and passed.

The motion by Lord Northbrook for the second reading of the Army Enlistment Bill led to a short discussion, in the course of which the measure was warmly commended by the Duke of Cambridge. The bill was read the second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Mr. Gladstone's statements on the Franco-Prussian project of a treaty, given at the beginning and close of the morning sitting, were substantially the same as Lord Granville's. Mr. Gladstone informed Mr. W. M. Torrens that no overtures have recently been made by the Government of the United States for the resumption of negotiations regarding the Alabama claims.

There was a sharp discussion on the Glebe Loans (Ireland) Bill, the object of which is to empower the Irish Public Works Commissioners to lend money to Irish parishes for the building of glebe houses, on the same terms as they would advance money to any other public work. Mr. C. Fortescue moved the second reading and Mr. Candlish the rejection of the measure. The proposal was justified by the Irish Secretary and Mr. Gladstone, on the ground that it was a corollary of the Irish Church Act, which ought to have found a place in it if there had been time; and was necessary for completing the work of religious equality. On the other hand, Mr. McLaren, Mr. Hadfield, Mr. M'Arthur, Mr. Miall, and other Nonconformists opposed the bill as a step towards concurrent endowment and a renewal of those relations between the State and religious bodies which had been condemned in principle by the Irish Church Bill. Mr. Baines and Mr. Winterbotham, however, sided with the Government, as they considered them bound in good faith to propose something of the kind. Irish members on both sides of the House supported the bill, which led Mr. Gilpin to remark that "Money for Ireland" seemed to be the only cry which would unite Irish members of different politics. On a division the second reading was carried by 161 to 58.

Mr. Stevenson moved a resolution condemning the statutes for Harrow and Winchester which require that every member of the governing bodies must be a member of the Church of England, which was resisted by the Government, and, on a division, was rejected by 85 to 73.

As soon as the House reassembled, at nine o'clock, it went into Committee of Supply, and some hours were spent upon the Civil Service Estimates.

In Committee upon the Census Bill, Dr. Ball proposed to extend the inquiry to the "religious profession" of individuals—in fact, to carry out a religious census; but, upon a division, he was defeated by a majority of 13—90 to 77. A motion by Sir John Lubbock to take account of the marriages of first cousins was supported by Mr. Bruce, but met with very general opposition, and was negatived by a majority of 47—92 to 45. On the motion of Mr. Assheton, it was agreed that the return should include the numbers of imbeciles and lunatics; and Mr. Miller divided the Committee on a proposal to require a statement from each person of the number of rooms without windows in his tenement. It was opposed by the Government, and lost only by the narrow majority of one—57 to 56.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

A good deal of time was spent upon the discussion of the Queen Anne's Bounty (Superannuation) Bill, the principal object of which was to provide for the payment of a retiring pension to Mr. Hodgson, the secretary to the board of trustees; but, in the end, the second reading was carried by a majority of 57—100 to 43.

The adjourned debate upon Mr. Leatham's Ballot Bill was resumed by Mr. Gladstone, who expressed his regret that the Government had been unable to proceed with their own

measure during the present Session, and under those circumstances announced his intention to vote for the second reading of the bill of the member for Huddersfield. Upon the general question the right hon. gentleman affirmed that the extension of the franchise had destroyed the weight of the argument that the franchise was a trust; and, although he was in the abstract unfavourable to secret voting, he was compelled to admit that the experience of the last election had shown the necessity for extending to some portions of our constituencies the protection of its shelter. Mr. Disraeli was humorous upon the conversion of the Prime Minister, who, he said, had replied to the arguments of the late Lord Palmerston and the position of the ballot question; but as it was impossible thoroughly to discuss it at the fag end of a Session, and on a "crotchety Wednesday," he offered no opposition to the bill; and it was read the second time without the utterance of a single "No."

The House went into Committee as a preliminary to sanctioning a grant and loan to the extent of £200,000 for the Shannon navigation; but, so much opposition was urged on both sides, that Mr. Stansfeld consented to report progress.

The Factories and Workshops, Pedlars' Certificates, and Turnpike Acts Continuance Bills were read the third time and passed.

After some opposition from Mr. Winterbotham, which, however, was not pressed to extremity, the Public Schools Act (1868) Amendment Bill got into Committee; and a clause proposed by the member for Stroud, requiring all statutes to be laid upon the table of the House of Commons, was negatived by a majority of 34—36 to 70.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Life Assurance Companies Bill was read the third time and passed; and the Clerical Disabilities Bill passed through Committee.

FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

There was a large attendance of strangers in anticipation of the statement which Earl Granville had promised to make respecting the negotiations which preceded the present condition of affairs between France and Prussia. The space in front of the throne was crowded a very few minutes after the House was opened. Amongst the visitors were the Prussian Minister (Count Bernstorff) and several members of the Corps Diplomatique, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Justice James, Sir George Grey, Mr. Lowe, and Mr. Goschen.

At a quarter past five o'clock, Earl Granville rose, and, after a few preliminary observations, said he should not be long, and could not tell their Lordships anything new. He was rather glad that he was incapable on this occasion of any oratorical display. Precedents had been quoted by Earl Russell for the plan of the Government making a statement when negotiations to prevent war had failed, but on this occasion he could not apportion praise or blame to either belligerent, and could only state what course the Government had taken during the few days which preceded the war. Assuming that their Lordships had read the papers which had been printed, the noble Lord referred to some of the principal points. Having adverted to the conversation with the French Ambassador, he said the policy of the Government had been to prevent the French Government being precipitate, and to exert upon Spain a pressure without dictation, and to show to Prussia the gravity of the situation. The task of the Government was not an easy one, for both the nations concerned were proud and military ones, and they had reserved their pressure on both countries to motives which could not hurt their pride or national self-love. Up to a certain point their efforts had been successful, though it was rather hard to talk of success when the efforts had ended in such complete failure. He eulogised the conduct of Mr. Layard, and pointed out the difficulties with which the Prussian Minister had to contend. As to France, the despatches of Lord Lyons showed that he had obtained a delay of something like five days in the preparation for those hostilities which took away all hope of peace. It was sad to think that an incident which had been misunderstood by both parties—the King sending word to M. Benedetti by an aide-de-camp that he had nothing more to say to him—had had this result, that the news of that circumstance being communicated to the two countries, one nation thought it was an insult to their Ambassador, the other looked upon it as an affront to their King. The step which the English Government urged was refused by Count Bismarck and the French Government, though he understood that the King of Prussia was willing to accept it. Yet an hour after they knew that the Government took another step in the direction of peace, but that, too, was unsuccessful. When the declaration of war was made they had one step—to proclaim their complete neutrality. Since then friendly relations had continued between England on the one hand and France and Prussia on the other, though he had not been without complaints—M. Lavalette, in particular, having complained to the Premier that he (Earl Granville) was cold. He did not think anything of the complaints made by nations engaged in such a death-struggle with respect to a neutral, but they were rather satisfactory as coming from both sides. They showed that his course had been an even one. He believed that that neutrality was approved by the country at large. He was aware of the responsibility which weighed upon the Government, and they would abstain from all superfluous declarations of what they would or would not do in the event of any possible contingency. The best course they could pursue was to maintain a dignified and calm reserve.

The Earl of Malmesbury was sure that, after the calm and temperate statement which had been made, their Lordships would not be inclined to find fault with the conduct of the Government.

Earl Russell, whilst advocating the maintenance of a position of complete neutrality by this country, urged upon the Government the propriety of increasing the strength of our Army, so as to be able to meet all contingencies.

The subject then dropped.

INDIAN FINANCE.

The Duke of Argyll laid on the table despatches relative to the finances of India, and in doing so made a general statement regarding the financial condition of that country, in which he confined himself to general results. The estimates for the past year were made in March, and showed a surplus of £52,000, but in the month of September it became evident to the government of India that instead of there being a small surplus of £52,000, there would be a deficit of a million and a half. They at once took steps to provide for the emergency by reducing expenditure and increasing taxation, and so successful had been the efforts made in those directions that last week Lord Mayo telegraphed to him to say that the deficit had wholly disappeared, and there was likely to be a surplus of from £100,000 to £200,000. Much blame had been cast upon Sir H. Temple; but the elements of uncertainty in Indian finance were so great that no estimate could be made with anything like certainty. The estimates of Mr. Wilson, Mr. Laing, and other financiers had all been equally delusive. The annual revenue of India was, in round numbers, £48,500,000, of which £2,000,000 were paid under

treatics to native Princes; and there was no hope of reducing that item. The interest of the debt was £5,500,000, and as long as the money market remained favourable they were able to pay it off as it fell due and to re-borrow it at 2½ per cent; but this unfortunate war which had just broken out had so interfered with the finances and commerce of all countries that there was very little probability of doing anything in the shape of reduction while it lasted. The loss on the guaranteed railways was £1,500,000, but that was a very small deficit compared with the capital raised and the great benefits conferred on that country. The cost of collection was a serious item, amounting to £7,399,000, and there was little hope of reduction on that head. The cost of the civil government last year was £12,649,000, but this year it had been reduced to £12,352,000. It included the vote for education, to which the Indian Government, with sound policy, always paid great attention. The cost of the army was about £16,500,000, and, as it was the opinion of Sir W. Mansfield and others that the European force in India could not be reduced with safety, there was no prospect of that item being diminished. There was left an available surplus for public works of £2,778,000. In talking of Indian deficits, they must recollect that they were all created by the amounts spent upon public works, and that if it were not for them there would be a large surplus. He trusted that the increased amount on the income tax and salt would only be temporary, and pointed out the difficulty of attracting European capital to India without Government guarantees. The noble Duke concluded by paying a high compliment to Lord Mayo for his indefatigable exertions in the discharge of his duties as Governor-General of India, and stated that even to the most minute details he paid the greatest attention.

The Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Lyveden, and Lord Lawrence commented favourably on the statement of the noble Duke, and offered various suggestions as to the future policy of the Government.

The subject then dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Mr. Plimsoll called attention to the state of a portion of the mercantile marine, and moved that, in the opinion of the House, the statement contained in the report of the Board of Trade that more than one half the losses at sea in the year 1868 were owing to the vessels being overlaid and unseaworthy ships of the collier class required the immediate attention of the Legislature, with the view to diminish such losses. After some remarks from Mr. Smith and Mr. Samuda, Mr. Lefevre said the subject had not been lost sight of, and would be dealt with by a measure next Session.

Mr. Bentinck moved that the statement of one Holmes, represented to be in command of the Tornado, be laid on the table. He wished also to know why the £1600 awarded by the Spanish Government to the crew had not been paid. After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR.

The Attorney-General, in reply to Mr. Gourelly, said that under certain circumstances exported coal would be contraband of war, but her Majesty's Government had not been able to define these circumstances. The question would be decided by the Prize Courts of the country which should make the seizure.

Mr. Bourke asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether there had been any representations or despatches received at the Foreign Office, since the year 1866, from our Ministers or Ambassadors abroad, upon the subject of an understanding between the French and Prussian Governments with respect to alterations of the French frontier.

Mr. Cadogan inquired whether her Majesty's Government was in possession of any information tending to show the subsequent to the battle of Königgrätz, in 1866, proposals were made by the Prussian Government to the Government of France for the annexation of Belgium to the French empire.

Mr. Otway said that some correspondence had taken place on this subject, and it was at the Foreign Office. It was of a confidential nature, and when he should have had time to examine it he would inform the hon. member whether any communication could be laid upon the table.

Admiral Erskine asked whether a French or Prussian merchant ship, now in a British port, if purchased bona fide by a British subject, and duly registered, would be exempt from liability to capture as being indisputably British property. The Attorney-General doubted whether it was desirable that questions of this kind, to which decisive answers could not be given, should be asked. Under the practice of the British Courts, a ship so purchased would be exempt from capture; but French courts maintained a different view; and if a Prussian ship so sold were captured, it would have to be decided by a French tribunal.

Replying to Colonel Beresford, Mr. Cardwell stated that the Government had no intention to place any restriction upon the export of horses from England.

The Attorney-General, in reply to Mr. V. Harcourt, said that the new Foreign Enlistment Bill had been introduced, and the second reading was fixed for to-morrow. The proclamation of July 19 was precisely the same, except some formal alterations, as that issued by the Government in 1859, and again on the breaking out of the European war in 1866. The proclamation referred to those provisions of the Foreign Enlistment Act which appeared most likely to be infringed, and it was not supposed that France or Prussia would enlist British subjects. With respect to the proclamation of 1861, it was then anticipated that British subjects would enlist, and therefore an addition to the ordinary form of proclamation was made. When the new Foreign Enlistment Act should come into operation it would deserve consideration whether another form of proclamation could not be adopted.

Mr. Cardwell, replying to Captain Talbot, said it was not correct that the Army was between 3000 and 4000 men below the strength provided for in the Estimates. On July 1 the force was, excluding the Indian Army, fully equal to the estimated number.

SUPPLY.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and the remainder of the night was occupied with the consideration of the Civil Service Estimates.

Susan Lee, a "fortune-teller," was convicted, at the Middlesex Sessions, on Saturday last, of having obtained a quantity of goods under false pretences from a maid-servant, of Highbury New Park. As she had previously suffered two years' penal servitude for a similar offence, she was now sentenced to seven years of the same punishment.

John Jones, with several aliases, was placed upon his trial, yesterday week, at the Aylesbury Assizes, before Mr. Baron Channell, for the wilful murder of the Marshall family at Denham, near Uxbridge, on May 22. A narrative of the circumstances connected with this frightful tragedy, which excited the greatest horror two months ago, was supplied by the evidence of many witnesses. The prisoner was found guilty, and sentenced to death.

THE FARM.

THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY'S SHOW.

Ten years ago the Highland Society took their shedding and pipers to the river-side at Dumfries, and had a better but not a larger show than on Tuesday afternoon, when they encamped on the farm of Rotchell, about a mile from the town. Mr. Douglas's shorthorn, and Mr. Mark Stewart's sale brought up many from the south; but, although "Edgar," Mr. Saunderson's English bull, took the first prize, the attendance of Englishmen seemed thin. Following so quickly after the Oxford meeting, and the commencement of harvest, may in some wise account for it. Last year the judging began early on the Wednesday morning at Edinburgh; but this year stock was admitted till noon on Tuesday, and the judges commenced their operations at one, so that the public might still have their three clear days, and the work be all finished; but the show seemed just as full on Tuesday afternoon as it was on the Wednesday of previous years, and when the flat went forth at noon to clear the ground, it was amusing to see how many turned stockmen and reporters for the occasion. A few volunteers and policemen were put through their facings in front of the committee-room, and received the divisional ropes. Messrs. J. Grierson and Allan Pagan commenced upon the Galloway cattle, which, save the Ayrshires, had the largest number of entries and some very good specimens. The Duke of Buccleuch showed the old bull Robert Bruce for the medium gold medal, and took first and second prizes with two-year-old heifers. Mr. Fisher took the £20 prize for aged bulls with Squire Dacre, and Mr. J. Thomson with two-year-olds. Mr. Biggar, of Chapelton, exhibited several, and won with yearling bulls and heifers; and Mr. James Cunningham with cows. Among the forty-six polled Angus Mr. McComb, M.P., had no entries, so the Forlethen bull Palmerston stood first. Sir G. McPherson Grant won with two-year-old bulls and two-year-old heifers, and got second with the cow Biss, against Colonel Fraser's handsome Sybil, whose Harry was second in yearling bulls, and his couple of two-year-old heifers second and third. Mr. George Brown got first for yearling bulls and second with aged bulls.

The shorthorns were a better show than last year, but inferior to the Aberdeen meeting in 1868, when 172 were entered, against 61 now. Messrs. Unthank, Chrisp, and Hardie had little difficulty in placing Edgar first, after his repeated second honours at the Royal; the bull looked as fresh and as vigorous as ever, notwithstanding thirty-six hours' train. Mr. Jas. Bruce's Baronet, of Mr. John Wood's blood, got second; and this same strain was first and second in two-year-olds, Mr. R. Bruce's Scotsman taking the first here as at Oxford. Mr. Jas. Beattie, of Newbie, got third with a Bates bull, and first in yearlings with the handsome, sweet-headed, but strong-horned Bentinck, bred by Mr. Tour, whose short-legged Warrior's Plume, also the property of Mr. Beattie, won easily in cows; a grandson of Edgar was the second yearling, and Sir D. Baird's Third Baron Lawrie third, in a pretty good class. Mr. Jas. Currie took the gold medal with Rose of Strathallan, a former prize cow, and second premium with Cherry Bloom, both of which were sold to Mr. J. Miller, Canada. The cows were a strong class. Mr. McIntosh's Lady Knightley 2nd did not appear among the two-year-olds; so Nelly Bly, the first-prize calf in '68 and third last year, was placed over her opponent, Booth's Lancaster, a very thick, broad-topped heifer of Mr. Beattie's. This heifer, with the commended Lady Solway, were bought by Mr. Cochrane for Canada. Lord Kinnaird's red yearling Forlorn Hope stood first among some very nice ones; and the proposed scale of points (which might be named after the heifer) was freely, but not favourably, discussed. Mr. Jacob Wilson got second in this class with a very sweet heifer, Woodbine, of Messrs. Angus's blood; and Mr. Beattie's Sonnie, of the same strain, was third. There were no calf classes. One hundred and fifty-four Ayrshires competed. Mr. John Fleming had some very beautiful specimens, and received two firsts for cows, a second for two-year-old bulls, and a third for heifers. Mr. R. Wilson's Lord Raglan was the first aged bull, Mr. Ballantyne's Nicholas as a two-year-old, and Mr. J. Meikle's Garibaldi as a yearling. Mr. R. Wilson also got a first, a second, and a third with cows; and Mr. A. McDowall with yearling heifers; but the sale of Mr. Drew's herd, in the spring, sadly thinned the ranks of the prize Ayrshires. The Highland cattle were not numerous, nor very first rate. Mr. John Malcolm won all the first prizes for cows and heifers, and Mr. McLaren with aged bulls. Mr. J. Stewart also got three prizes. Several fat animals were shown, and a crossbred Highland and short-horn, exhibited by the Earl of Dunmore, was particularly good, and took the first prize against one of the Duke of Buccleuch's.

One of the finest sights at the Highland meeting is the exhibition of Clydesdale horses. Bedecked with the gayest of ribbons, and groomed in the highest degree, their powerful, handsome forms are shown to the greatest advantage. The celebrated Keir breed, belonging to Sir W. Stirling Maxwell, had but one representative this year, the short-legged bay mare Jess, which received the first prize against some good horses of Mr. Drews and others. In the stallions, Mr. P. Crawford's Rantin Robin was first, beating the noted Prince of Wales of Mr. Riddell, who got first prize with a yearling colt. Mr. McKean's handsome colt was the first two-year-old, and Mr. McRobbie's Black Prince won the three-year-old prize. Mr. Adam Smith showed a handsome mare, Bell, which took the £20 premium. Mr. Fleming won two prizes with fillies, and Mr. Weir's first-prize Maggie was rather a leggy three-year-old.

There was a large and fine show of Cheviot sheep, in which Mr. Brydon and Mr. Elliott really won all the prizes among a number of exhibitors. Mr. Archibald won in not so large a show of blackfaces. The Border and Leicester shearlings were a grand class, as usual: indeed, this part of the show, like the horses, is not to be equalled in the kingdom. Mr. Torrance took the first prize with a fine young tup, and Mr. Simson came second; and, oddly enough, they kept similar places among the gimmers. In a long-wooled class a Lincoln won against Cotswolds and Teeswaters, and Mr. Gibson's Shropshire tup against Oxfordshire downs. There were a few Southdowns, almost out of their element, and Sir W. G. Cumming got first and second prizes among eight animals. Mr. George Mangles and Mr. Duckering won most of the prizes in a fair show of pigs or swine, as the Scotch delight to call them. There was a rare lot of poultry and some sweet, nice butter and cheese exhibited. The implements have greatly increased in number, and the extensive display somewhat surprised the judges. Mr. McCormick and Mr. J. Pringle had the largest number of entries.

The hay is still out in places, and the harvest is beginning to look in the district quite of golden promise.

At the Clackmannanshire Union Show, on the 23rd inst., there was a good collection of cattle and sheep, in which Messrs. Mitchell's stock won all the principal prizes.

Mr. Davies had a very successful sale of his shorthorns at Mere Old Hall. Mess Rose, twelve years old, realised 350 gs.,

and was bought by Mr. E. H. Cheney, Gaddesby; her white heifer, three years old, was in great request, Mr. Cochrane, Canada, bid over 700 gs., and the biddings were then kept up by Captain Oliver and Mr. Cheney's agent, Mr. Bland, who at last got her for 800 gs. Her half-brothers, Royal Chester and Royal Lancaster, made 200 gs. (Barnes, Australia) and 130 gs. (J. Knowles) respectively. Most of the other lots went cheap. Lot 23, the highest being Candidate's Duchess, made 105 gs., and was bought by Mr. Cochrane. The bulls were not a very first-class lot, Grand Duke of Essex 4th, the stock bull of Bates blood, and a 170 gs. yearling purchase three years since, realised but 43 gs.

The terribly dry weather with which Bucks and Herts seem more particularly stricken seriously affected Mr. Drake's sale at Shardeloes. The luncheon-tent was badly filled, and many of the cows went under market price; the heifers, somewhat lacking style, were thick-fleshed, large, and good. Mr. Thornton gave the highest price, 63 gs., for Madrigal 18th, and 37 gs. for Meadow Flower 13th; and Mr. Hugh Dunn also took a good red heifer, Lolia 9th, at 41 gs. The fifty-seven head averaged but £24.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Goodwood was by no means "glorious" on the first day of the meeting, for there was a terrible thunderstorm in the middle of the racing, which effectually put an end to all toilet displays. The rain, however, improved the "going" immensely and banished the plague of dust for a few hours. Rosicrucian defeated Vespasian for the Craven Stakes more easily than Blue Gown did last year; but the old horse had been beaten in his trial, and was not at all himself. The Newminster—Caller On filly finished only a head before Queen of the Gipsies in the Woodcote Stakes at Epsom, but she was then said to be amiss, and the way in which she cut down Brother to Sunlight for the Ham Stakes proves this to have been the case. When the three jockeys who rode in this race weighed in, they were each nearly 3 lb. over weight, owing to their being wet through; but, under the exceptional circumstances, the stewards allowed the race to hold good—rather a dangerous precedent, to our mind. Old Typhoeus (8 st. 10 lb.) was thoroughly at home in the six-furlong Stewards' Cup, and he is the best instance of a successfully patched-up cripple that we can remember. Pretender (9 st. 4 lb.), who had not run since last autumn, found the weight too much for him; and Ladas (8 st. 10 lb.) was also overburdened. Had Balvenie possessed a tenth of Général's gameness, he would have beaten him for the Lavant; as it was, however, the French colt just managed to win, but his victory was not nearly so good a performance as his defeat in the July Stakes.

A leviathan card on Wednesday produced very little real sport. A capital field, including Gunga Jee, Repose, Ptarmigan, Barrier, and Chawbacon, finished behind Anton in the Bognor Stakes, and he must possess a great turn of speed to win as he did. Paganini (8 st. 10 lb.), like Gomera before him, owes his Stakes victory entirely to the wretched quality of the field, and we may safely set down all the three-year-olds that finished behind him as very bad animals indeed. In spite of getting rid of Pandore by claiming her on Tuesday, Sir Joseph Hawley did not win the 300 sov. sweepstake, for Asterope has so entirely lost form that she could not even beat the wretched Columbine filly. The Findon Stakes would have been the most interesting event of the day if King of the Forest, Général, and the Caller On filly had met. Neither of the other two, however, came out to try conclusions with the Russley crack, who consequently had a very easy task.

The Cup day was dull and chilly, and the attendance rather smaller than usual; but the scene on the lawn was as bright and gay as ever. Yellow and black seemed the favourite colours with the ladies, and this was especially appropriate, as Mr. Merry was in great force. It is a pity that Lady of Lyons is not in the Leger, as, after her clever defeat of Games, she would have had many admirers. The Oaks winner, however, went decidedly short and stilty in her canter, and was not up to the mark. Siderolite struck us as quite the pick of the Cup field. He is very big and powerful, with immense length, but has rather a common-looking head. Sabinus is a light-framed, and by no means taking-looking, horse, and has a plain, big head and Roman nose. Champion was disfigured by a pair of blinkers, but looked wonderfully fit, his coat shining like satin. They got off at the first attempt, Morna making play at a cracking pace to suit her stable companion, and at the end of a mile she held a long lead. Then she began to compound, and was soon last of all. Sabinus was beaten nearly half a mile from home, and the race was left entirely to the first and second. Champion held a lead of about a neck as they passed the Stand; still Wells did not seem to be working particularly hard, and, bringing Siderolite with a rush in the last few strides, just won by a head. The result is not easily explained, as Sabinus held Siderolite quite safe in the Ascot running; but "Mr. Hecsey's" horse seems a very in-and-out performer. Laetitia made Général gallop for the Molecomb Stakes, and we left the course shortly after this race.

The Leger has been reduced to narrower limits than ever by the scratching of Sunshine. Many people had backed her, in the hope that she would follow in the steps of her dam, Sunbeam; or, to quote a more recent example, of Achievement. Both these fillies ran badly in the early part of their three-year-old career, but then came round and were successful at Doncaster. Sunshine's case, however, appears a worse one.

Mr. William Enfield, who has been town clerk of Nottingham for twenty-five years, has resigned the office, and Mr. Samuel George Johnson, of Faversham, was, on Monday, appointed his successor.

An explosion took place on Tuesday morning, at Leith, in the oilworks of Mr. McIntosh. Three out of eight persons who were in the works were killed and one was injured. The premises were totally destroyed.

A disastrous explosion of firedamp occurred, last Saturday evening, at Llansamlet, between three and four miles from Swansea. Nineteen miners were taken out dead, and five others had suffered serious injuries. At Scowcroft's Trinchbone Pit, Kersley, Lancashire, on Monday, a man was working with a naked light, when an explosion took place; one collier was killed, and another was badly hurt.

Mr. Graham, M.P. for Glasgow, has presented Mr. C. Lucy's large historical picture of "Sunday Afternoon at Hampton-Court Palace, A.D. 1658," containing portraits of the Cromwell family and other celebrities of the Commonwealth, to his native city of Glasgow. The picture (which is one of the best and most important historical works of our day) is to be placed in the new public gallery of the town, as the nucleus of a collection of works of art. Mr. Graham's liberality deserves to be widely known, in order that it may induce others to follow so good an example.



PRIZE HORSES AND CATTLE AT THE OXFORD MEETING OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
SEE PAGE 126.



THE WAR: RECEPTION OF THE KING OF PRUSSIA IN BERLIN.



DEMONSTRATION ON THE BOULEVARD DES ITALIENS, PARIS.
SEE PAGE 112.

FINE ARTS.

The annual voting of the Supplies has brought forward, as usual, several art-topics for Parliamentary discussion—and, as usual, little or nothing creditable to the country is effected. This is certainly not a favourable moment to press for the prosecution of works calculated to advance the arts of peace. But should we be the better off for their neglect in the event of war? Will our army, for instance, bear comparison with that of France better than our National Gallery will bear comparison with the Louvre? Mr. Gladstone may well confess to the House that the state of our whole arrangement with regard to the management of our Public Works is "deplorable." And the Premier very justly added that "vacillation, uncertainty, costliness, extravagance, meanness, and all the conflicting vices that could be enumerated were united in our present system. There was a total want of authority to direct and guide. When anything was to be done, they had to go from department to department, from the Executive to the House of Commons, from the House of Commons to a Committee, from a Committee to a Commission, and from a Commission back to a Committee—so that years passed away, the public were disappointed, and the public money was wasted. He believed that such were the evils of the system that nothing short of a revolutionary reform would ever be sufficient to rectify it." One of the most obvious of these evils is unquestionably the frequency with which we change our First Commissioner of Works; in addition to which we have seen confessed incompetency promoted to that important post merely for the sake of Ministerial convenience. No sooner does a new Commissioner come into power than he sets to work, not to carry forward, but to arrest and reverse everything done by his predecessor. A lamentable instance of this is afforded in the case of the proposed new National Gallery. After years of debate, the conclusion was arrived at that the present Gallery was miserably insufficient and unworthy of the nation. Accordingly, a large additional plot of ground was purchased, a competition of architectural designs was held, and a design by Mr. Barry was adjudged to possess merit sufficient, even if not adopted entirely, to justify his nomination as architect of a new building. But thereupon a new First Commissioner came into office, and the whole project was indefinitely laid aside. It is true the Government now promise to "deal with the question," and to bring forward a "supplementary estimate involving a very moderate sum." What this means, however, it is easy to prognosticate: it means a falsely economical policy of temporarily patching-up, leaving real requirements unsupplied.

A similar story has to be told of the proposed new refreshment-rooms for the House of Commons. The need of improved accommodation of various kinds had been felt for years by honourable members; and a comprehensive plan for supplying the same was provided by Mr. Barry, and seemed in a fair way of being carried out with some modification of details. But then steps in a new First Commissioner, who at once unceremoniously dismisses the man of all others in England best qualified to effect any needful alterations in Westminster Palace from his life-long familiarity with the building; and the Commissioner himself undertakes the task, by aid of the staff of the Board of Works—officials without any special qualification for such a task whatever. A plan is at length brought by the Commissioner before the House, and is unanimously condemned by every member entitled to speak with authority on its merits, notwithstanding which it is approved for execution! Tired with long delay, and hopeless of an improved prospect, we suppose that, as in many similar cases, a sort of despairing acquiescence was given to the measure. Probably, also, the reduction of the estimate was not without weight; but this reduction was due to the incomplete nature of the plan, whilst its deficiencies and imperfections will, in the end, doubtless entail a far larger outlay than the comprehensive scheme first proposed. The new plan was produced as original, but we have indisputable assurances that what is good in it is borrowed from Mr. Barry, and its serious defects are to be traced to the Board of Works.

The assistance of three of the best men in the architectural profession, Messrs. Pennefather, Ferguson, and Barry have been discarded by Government; and their places, it seems, are to be filled by an "assistant surveyor," one of whose chief qualifications must be his capacity of "making technical reports properly composed and spelt!" The case of Mr. Barry—one of the most meritorious public servants we had—is peculiarly hard. The prize he fairly won in the competition for the Law Courts was unjustly withheld; his nomination as architect for the National Gallery, which was given by way of compensation, is cancelled; for no proven fault he has been dismissed from his post of architect at the Westminster Palace; and demands have been made on him which, as unreasonable in themselves and contrary to the usage of the noble profession to which he belongs throughout the world, were most invidious, ill-timed, and unjustifiable. Of the plans demanded of him he did not (as was pretended) wish to withhold any that might be essentially necessary to his successor; but there are others which should be regarded as the private property of the architect.

Out of evil, however, good may sometimes come accidentally. When Mr. Ayrton, following the example of his predecessors, cut short

Mr. Layard's favourite scheme of decorating the Westminster Palace with mosaics, he rendered, we believe, a service to art, though without knowing or intending it. We have always held that wall-painting has not had a fair trial in this country, and that the mechanical reproduction of mosaic unfits it for rendering the best qualities of mural pictorial art; and that therefore it is only suitable for strictly ornamental purposes. The want of permanency alleged against the wall-paintings hitherto executed has been much exaggerated; and there can be no reasonable doubt that the new medium of wax and paraffine will withstand even the atmosphere of London. Accordingly, we rejoice to hear that the mosaic scheme of decoration is arrested, and we are still more glad to find that Mr. Ayrton (contrary to his practice in respect to architectural questions), has invited advice from nearly all the living artists who have painted for the Westminster Palace. As might be expected, the unanimous opinion of these artists is that it is not desirable to continue the system of mosaic decoration. We trust that the conclusions of the artists, without amateur interference, will be accepted by Parliament, and that a form of art so essential to the elevation of a national school as mural painting will receive due Government encouragement at Westminster and elsewhere.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The publication by a leading contemporary of the draught of a secret treaty between France and Prussia, having for its basis the absorption of Belgium and Luxemburg by the former Power, threw the Stock markets into a state of great confusion during the earlier part of the week. Eventually, notwithstanding the account, the tone became more favourable, and a considerable proportion of the decline was recovered. The failure of six members of the Exchange has been announced. The Consol Market has been very unsettled. At one time the quotation fell to 88½, but it has since recovered to 89 to 89½ for delivery, and 89 to 89½ for the August Account; Reduced and New Three per Cents, 89½ to 89½; Bank Stock, 232 to 234; India Five per Cents, 109½ to 110; and India Bonds, 20s. to 25s. prem. For Colonial Government Securities there has been very little inquiry, and prices have had a drooping tendency.

The demand for English Railway Stocks has been only to a moderate extent. Considerable depression was apparent during the earlier part of the week, and an average reduction of about 2 per cent took place. Subsequently there was a reaction, and the decline was almost entirely recovered:—Caledonian, 72½ to 73½; Great Eastern, 81 to 82; Great Northern, 114 to 116; Ditto A, 120 to 122; Great Western, 61 to 62; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 126 to 128; London and Brighton, 34 to 35; London and North-Western, 122 to 123; London and South-Western, 85 to 87; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 39 to 41; Metropolitan, 65 to 66; Midland, 122 to 123; North-Eastern, 132 to 133; South-Eastern, 66 to 67; Great Western of Canada, 13½ to 13½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 12 to 13; Great Luxembourg, 98 to 10½; and Lombards, 13 to 13½.

Business in Foreign Bonds has been to a limited extent, and the market has been alternately depressed and steady. Egyptian, 1868, 67 to 69; Mexican, 12 to 12½; Italian, 45 to 45½; Peruvian, 1868, 83 to 85; Portuguese, 1869, 26 to 27; Spanish, 1867, 23½ to 24; Ditto, 1869, 23½ to 23½; Turkish, 1865, 56 to 57; Ditto Five per Cents, 33 to 33½; Ditto, 1869, 47 to 48; United States Five-Twenty, 1882, Bonds, 81½ to 82.

Bank Shares have been dealt in quietly, at about late rates. For Telegraph and Miscellaneous Securities there has been scarcely any inquiry, and prices have shown no change of importance.

As was anticipated, the Bank directors have further advanced the official minimum 1 per cent, the quotation now being 5 per cent. In the face of the continued heavy drain of bullion this movement is certainly justified. In the general market three-months' paper has not been negotiated under 4½ per cent.

On the Continent money has continued very firm, and the Bank of Holland has raised its rate from 5 to 5½ per cent.

The bullion operations during the week have been important. Considerable supplies have been received from New York, but they have fallen far short of actual requirements, to meet which large sums have been withdrawn from the Bank.

Silver has been firm. Bars are quoted at 61½d. to 61¾d. per ounce. As regards the exchanges the rates are still very unsettled; but the tendency is more favourable.

At a meeting of the Credit Foncier of England (Limited) it was shown that, during the last half year, there had been a profit of £229,903, equivalent to a dividend of nearly 6 per cent on the reduced capital of £1,000,000. Of this sum, £6987 had been produced by what may be termed windfalls; but the remaining portion of the profit of £22,155 had been made upon considerably less than half the capital. The company had not only paid off £40,000 of the loan raised on its debentures, but also £11,473 by way of interest and bonus on the loan.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the London Financial Association—Mr. John Borradaile in the chair—the report of the directors was adopted. It was stated that the liabilities had been reduced £53,000 during the half year. Proposals had been received in regard to the Muswell-hill property, which were likely to be accepted.

At a meeting of the National Bank the directors' report was adopted, and a dividend at the rate of 7 per cent per annum was declared.

A meeting has been held of the London and St. Katharine Docks Company, and a dividend of 1½ per cent for the half year was announced.

At a meeting of the Australian Agricultural Company a dividend of 12s. 6d. per share was declared.

The report of the Birmingham Joint-Stock Bank (Limited) for the half year ended June 30 announces a dividend at the rate of 20 per cent per annum. The deposits held are £1,174,513, the paid-up capital is £203,900, and the reserve is £214,410.

At a meeting of the Merchant Shipping Company (Limited) it was shown that there was an available total of £21,781. A dividend at the rate of 4 per cent per annum was declared.

The official liquidator of the South-Eastern of Portugal Railway Company has announced for the 2nd and 3rd of August the authorised distribution of Portuguese Government Bonds, 1869, by order of the Court of Chancery, to the respective holders of the securities of the company. The total is £1,850,000, of which £512,000 will be to the holders of the railway bonds of the first issue, £487,000 to the second, £270,000 to special creditors, and £580,000 to general creditors.

The report of the liquidators of the Soinde, Panjab, and Delhi Bank Corporation (Limited), to be presented on Aug. 3, announces a further return of 1s. per share, making a total return of £6 13s. 6d. per £10 share, and £1 13s. 6d. per £5 share; being equal to a total return of £264,790 to the shareholders, and within 6d. per share of the original estimate. A further small distribution is expected.

The return of the Bank of England shows the following results when compared with the previous week:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| An increase in the circulation of .. | £42,214 |
| An increase in public deposits of .. | 196,568 |
| An increase in other deposits of .. | 1,204,748 |
| An increase in other securities of .. | 2,656,547 |
| A decrease in bullion of .. | 1,188,025 |
| An increase in rest of .. | 24,992 |
| A decrease in reserve of .. | 1,101,190 |

The circulation, including post bills, is now £24,746,505; public deposits amount to £5,866,892, and private deposits to £21,013,923. The securities held represent £35,784,220; and the stock of bullion is £19,252,490. The rest figures for £3,409,992.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The grain trade ruled dull, and prices showed a decided reaction from the recent heavy advance. The favourable harvest prospects had a depressing influence upon the quotations, which gave way 3s. per quarter on both English and foreign wheats. Barley and malt were firm in value, while a steady business has been concluded in oats, at a further rise of 1s. per quarter. Beans and peas have tended upwards, while maize has been commanded very full values. The flour trade has been extremely dull, and foreign and country sacks have given way 1s. to 2s.

Arrivals this Week.—English and Scotch: Wheat, 310; malt, 100 quarters. Foreign: Wheat, 24,860; barley, 620; oats, 63,370; beans, 1120; peas, 4970; maize, 3270 quarters; flour, 1230 sacks.

English Currency.—Red wheat, 50s. to 55s.; white ditto, 52s. to 58s.; barley, 32s. to 40s.; oats, 50s. to 75s.; peas, 25s. to 34s.; beans, 40s. to 52s.; peas, 38s. to 42s. per quarter; flour, 35s. to 54s. per 280 lb.

Imperial Averages.—40,672 quarters of English wheat sold last week, at an average price of 49s. 9d.; 251 quarters of barley, at 31s. 2d.; and 1184 quarters of oats, at 26s. 11d. per quarter.

Seeds.—There has been scarcely anything doing in the seed market, but prices are nominally unchanged. Linseed and rapeseed have ruled firm in value. Cakes steady in value and demand.

Colonial Produce.—The Mincing-lane markets have been dull, owing to the political situation. War articles have commanded very high prices; but sugar and coffee have ruled dull, and drooping in value. Rice, adroit, has been in fair request. Spices have sold on rather easier terms. Tea is unaltered in value.

Provisions.—For butter there has been a fair inquiry. Waterford has sold at 112s. to 120s.; Carlow, 110s. to 118s.; Cork, 102s. to 104s.; Limerick, 112s. to 116s.; Friesland, 120s. to 122s.; Jersey, 84s. to 120s. Bacon has sold slowly.—Waterford, 71s. to 77s.; Hamburg, 60s. to 63s. Hams have been quiet.—York, 92s. to 98s.; Irish, 88s. to 112s. Cheese has sold slowly.—Edam, 56s. to 66s.; Gouda, 58s. to 62s.; Canter, 26s. to 31s.; and American, 70s. to 72s.

Hay and Straw.—The market to-day has been fairly supplied. The demand has been active, at the following enhanced rates for hay.—Prime old hay, 120s. to 130s.; inferior ditto, 100s. to 110s.; prime new hay, 105s. to 115s.; superior ditto, 90s. to 105s.; prime old clover, 135s. to 145s.; inferior ditto, 110s. to 120s.; prime new clover, 120s. to 128s.; inferior ditto, 100s. to 110s.; and straw, 24s. to 30s. per load.

Spirits.—There has been a steady inquiry for rum, on rather higher terms. Prices of gin have advanced 4d. per gallon; grain spirit is also higher.

Wool.—Owing to the withdrawal of the French and German buyers from the market, the wool trade has been very depressed, and the colonial wool sales closed at a decline of 1d. per lb. In English wool there has been very little doing.

Hops.—The accounts from the hop plantations are most encouraging, and trade in the Borough is consequently suspended. Prices are quite nominal, in the absence of business.

Potatoes.—Fair supplies of new potatoes continue to come to hand, which meet a steady demand, at stationary currencies.

Oils.—Linseed oil has sold at £31 on the spot; £30 5s. for last four months. English brown rape has been in moderate request, at £42 10s. spot; refined, £44 10s.; foreign, £47 to £48. Fine Lagos palm is quoted at £39 10s. Olive and coconut oils are unchanged in value.

Tallow.—The market has ruled steady, at 46s. for Y.C. spot; and 48s. 3d. to 48s. 6d. last three months.

Coals.—Newcastle, 16s. 6d. to 17s. 6d.; Sunderland, 16s.; Hartlepool and West Hartlepool, 16s. 6d. to 18s. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.—Quietness has been the feature of the cattle trade to-day. About an average supply of beasts has been on sale. For prime breeds there has been a fair inquiry, at full prices; otherwise the market has been dull. With sheep the market has been well supplied. On the whole the demand has been quiet, but prices have been maintained. Lambs have been steady on former terms. For calves there has been very little demand.

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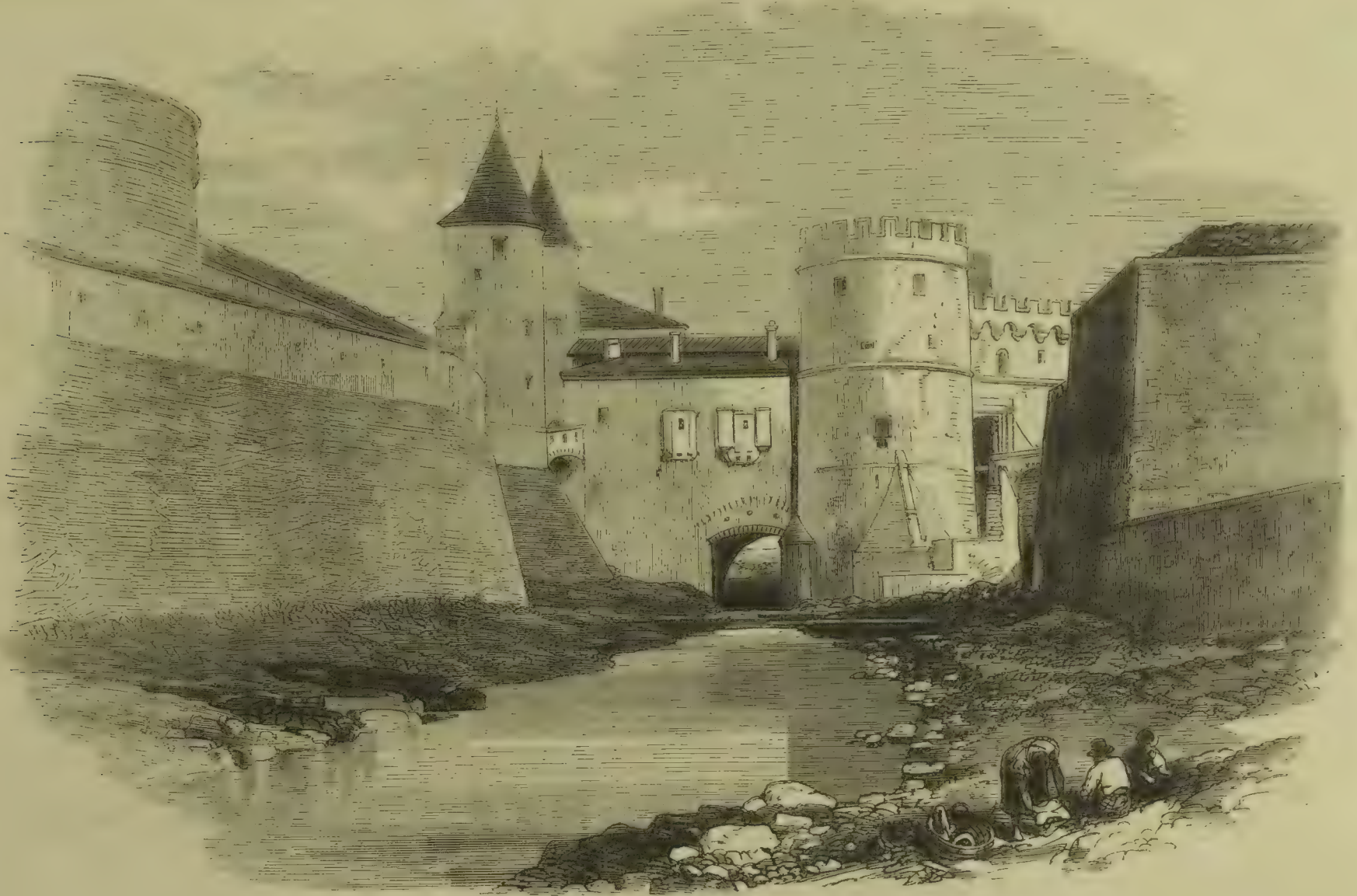
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FORTIFICATIONS OF METZ: THE PORTE DES ALLEMANDS.

THE PRUSSIAN FLEET.

The following is a statement of the present strength of the Prussian navy:—Three armour-clad frigates—the König Wilhelm, 23 guns, 1150-horse power, 5908 tons; the Prinz Friedrich Karl, 16 guns, 950-horse power, 3800 tons; the Kron Prinz, 16 guns, 950-horse power, 3400 tons.

Two armour-clad vessels—the Arminius, 4 guns, 300-horse power, 1200 tons; the Prinz Adalbert, 3 guns, 300-horse power.

Five corvettes (two-decked)—the Elizabeth, 26 guns, 400-horse power, 2626 tons; the Hertha, 28 guns, 400-horse power, 1746 tons; the Vineta, 28 guns, 500-horse power, 1746 tons; the Arcona, 28 guns, 386-horse power, 1621 tons; the Gazelle, 28 guns, 386-horse power, 1621 tons.

Four gun-vessels—the Medusa, 17 guns, 200-horse power, 925 tons; the Nymph, 17 guns, 200-horse power, 925 tons; the Augusta, 14 guns, 400-horse power, 1462 tons.

Two despatch-boats—the Preussischer Adler, 4 guns, 300-horse power, 800 tons; the Loreley, 2 guns, 120-horse power, 332 tons.

A Royal yacht—the Grille, without guns, 160-horse power, 493 tons. During the campaign of Schleswig-Holstein the Grille, armed with two 12-pounders, frequently distinguished itself.

The above-named are screw-steamers, except the Preussischer Adler and Loreley, paddle-steamers.

Three steam-vessels for the service of the ports—the Jahde, 50-horse power; the Greif, and the Neptune transport. Their armament is not known.

Eight gun-vessels of the first class—the Basilisk, the Blitz, the Cameleon, the Comet, the Cyclops, the Dolphin, the Dragon, the Meteor, each of 3 guns, 80-horse power, and 326 tons burden.

Fourteen corvettes of the second order—the Renard, the Habicht, the Hyena, the Chasseur, the Haffer, the Arrow, the Salamander, the Schwalbe, the Scorpion, the Sperber, the Teyre, the Wasp, the Wolf—each of 2 guns, 60-horse power, and 233 tons.

There are also the following sailing-vessels. Three frigates—the Gefion, 48 guns, 1406 tons; the Thetis, 36 guns, 1557 tons; the Niobe, 26 guns, 1952 tons.

Three brigs—the Mosquito, 16 guns; the Rover, 16 guns, 352 tons; the Hela, 8 guns, 253 tons.



THE ARSENAL AT METZ.

Four ships for the service of the ports—the *Barbarossa* 9 guns, 1138 tons; the *Iltis*, without guns, 178 tons; the *Leopard* and the *Wangerode*, pilots.

Thirty-two long-boats (rowing), carrying 2 guns each. Total of steam-vessels, 88, 454 guns, 7892-horse power, 42,825 tons.

Within the last two months the *Renown*, one of our finest two-deckers, of 54 guns and 800-horse power, has been purchased, and added to the fleet. The three first-mentioned vessels form the prominent features of our Engraving. The central ship is the *Prince Frederick Karl*, just built at Toulon; and on her right the *Kron Prinz*, built by Messrs. Samuda, of Poplar; on the left of the picture is the *König Wilhelm*, the flagship of the Admiral, *Prince Adalbert*, built at Blackwall, by the Thames Shipbuilding Company, from designs by Mr. E. J. Reed, C.E., one of the most noble and formidable iron-clads yet constructed.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL COUNCIL AT ROME.

The ceremony of proclaiming the new dogma of Papal Infallibility, in accordance with the resolution of the Ecumenical Council, took place on the 18th inst., in the temporary council-hall, which is the north transept of St. Peter's Cathedral. There was no procession or other pageantry, and very few spectators were present. Two or three hundred seats of the members of the council were vacant, many having been compelled to leave Rome because of the heat of the summer. The Pope having entered quietly and taken his seat, a mass was performed, and was followed by the Litany of the Saints, and the hymn "Veni Creator." The secretary to the council then read the decree announcing the doctrine of infallibility, and the names of all the members of the council were called over, each Father responding with "Placet" or "Non placet." This lasted an hour and a half, during which time there was a violent thunderstorm; the loud peals frequently interrupted the reading of the list, while flashes of lightning darted about the majestic building. When the record of the voting was taken up to the Pope, the storm-clouds made it so dark that he could not read it without a huge wax taper. His announcement of the result was received by the assembly with a great clapping of hands and waving of handkerchiefs. It appears that 533 Fathers voted for the dogma, 88 voted directly against it, 62 were in favour of it with some modifications, and 70 declined to vote. We give an illustration of the scene when the secretary was reading the decree from the pulpit at the lower end of the hall. The Pope is seen enthroned at the upper end.

PRIZE CATTLE AT THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

Several of the cattle which were found deserving of prizes at the Oxford meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England are figured in one of our Engravings. The bull whose back and head are seen above the others at the top of the page is the one to which the first prize was awarded in the class of shorthorns above three years old. It is the roan called *Bolivar*, shown by Mr. C. W. Brierly, of Middleton, near Manchester, but bred in Ireland, by Mr. Meadows, of Wexford. The one that appears immediately below it took the first prize for bulls between two and three years of age; it is the roan Robert Bruce, of Newton, of Struthers, Forbes, Elgin, bred by the Duke of Buccleuch at Dalkieth. The cow is the Queen of Rosalea, a roan, nearly six years old, in milk and in calf, which belongs to Lady Emily Pigot, of Branches Park, Newmarket; she gained a second prize in her class. Of the horses, the one shown uppermost in our Engraving is the first-prize Suffolk stallion, foaled before the year 1868; this is *Harwich Emperor*, a nine-year-old chestnut, owned by Mr. S. Wolton, of Newbourne Hall, Woodbridge. Below the Suffolk sire is represented the mare, not of the Clydesdale or the Suffolk breed, which was found worthy of the first prize for mares useful for agricultural purposes; this is the five-year-old chestnut *Fanny*, with her foal standing beside her, the property of Mr. T. Statter, of Stand-hill, Whitefield, near Manchester. She was bred by Mr. Upton, of Callathorpe, Tadcaster, her sire being named *Lincolnshire*, and *Diamond* her dam.

CIVIL LIST PENSIONS.

The following is a list of all pensions granted during the year ended June 20 last, and charged upon the Civil List:—

Mrs. Lucy Sherrard Finley—In consideration of her services to literature, £50. Mr. William Allingham—Additional pension in recognition of his literary merits as a poet (previous pension of £60 granted June 18, 1864), £40.

Mr. Augustus De Morgan—In consideration of his distinguished merits as a mathematician, £100.

Mrs. Charlotte J. Thompson—In consideration of the labours of her late husband, Mr. Thurston Thompson, as Official Photographer to the Science and Art Department, and of his personal services to the late Prince Consort, £40.

Demetrius, Count Carnso, of the Island of Cephalonia—In recognition of his long and faithful services to the British protectorate in the Ionian Islands, £100.

Mrs. Rachel Robertson Brodie—In recognition of the historical researches and writings of her late husband, Mr. George Brodie, Historiographer Royal of Scotland, £80.

Dame Georgiana Marianne Catherine Mayne—In consideration of the personal service of her late husband, Sir Richard Mayne, to the Crown, and of the faithful performance of his duty to the public, £100.

Mr. Robert William Buchanan—In consideration of his literary merits as a poet, £100.

Dame Henrietta Grace Baden Powell, in consideration of the valuable services to science rendered by her husband during the thirty-three years he held the Savilian Professorship of Geometry and Astronomy at Oxford, £150.

Miss Margaret Catherine Ffennell, Miss Elizabeth Mark Ffennell, and Mrs. Charlotte Carlisle, formerly Ffennell, wife of Captain Thomas Carlisle, jointly, and to the survivors or survivor of them, £30. Miss Margaret Catherine Ffennell, £10; Miss Elizabeth Mark Ffennell £10; Mrs. Charlotte Carlisle, £10—In recognition of the labours of their father in connection with the salmon fisheries of the United Kingdom.

Mrs. Jane Dargan—In recognition of the services of her late husband, Mr. William Dargan, in connection with the Dublin Exhibition of 1853, and other works of public importance in Ireland, £100.

Mrs. Charlotte Christiana Sturt—In consideration of the services rendered by her late husband, Captain Charles Sturt, by his geographical researches in Australia, £80.

William Henry Emmanuel Bleek, Doctor of Philosophy—In recognition of his literary services and in aid of his labours in the department of philology, especially in the study of the South African languages, £150.

Total, £1200.

"NOTHING IN THE PAPERS."

"When I said I would die a bachelor I did not think I should live till I were married." One excuse is as good as another, he who excuseth himself being in an irretrievably vicious position. When I said I would not write about the war, I did not think I should hear that the Fenians had declared war against Prussia. But so it is. Large demonstrations of sympathy with France have been made in Ireland; and though in one case the police, who have no romance about them, broke in on the mob and smashed drums, a new drum has been presented to the Fenians by French residents in Dublin—a graceful return, by-the-way, for the protection afforded to foreigners by our Government. What would the Emperor's friends have said if the English residents in Paris had subscribed for a testimonial to M. de Rochfort? However, it is not of much consequence. The Fenians do not care a farthing for France, but, having discovered that English feeling is against the war begun by the Emperor, an opportunity for another spiteful anti-English manifestation is afforded. They will not help the Emperor beyond bellowing his name, and though in the days of Troy a hero's shout was enough to throw a whole army into disarray and panic, the Fenian utterance will have no such power, especially as the Dublin mob do not bellow half so loud as their brethren-in-arms when "running like men" from the enraged Canadians. As this country is bound to be neutral in the matter of the war as long as is possible, it is well that the Prussians should know, what the French know perfectly well, that the latter can derive no "material" assistance from these yelling Fenians. Were there the slightest reality about the movement the duty of the Executive at such a crisis would be quite clear.

Mr. Alderman Lusk has pronounced against the racehorse. The Alderman thinks that our breed of useful cattle is the finest in the world, but that Heather Bell, Toby, and their like are but "exaggerated greyhounds." The Committee of the House of Commons seems to have been struck dumb by this impromptu little lecture on zoology. One is grateful to anybody who will say anything out of the ordinary course this hot weather, and the Alderman's remark was made on the very hottest day for many years. Is it not in one of Lord Lytton's novels that a man says, "we accept what you say as wit, and laugh without thinking what you mean, just as one takes change, without counting it, from an honest tradesman"? But if one were not bound to adopt this rule in cases of all speeches by members of the Collective Wisdom, one might ask what the Alderman meant—unless Mr. Toots's favourite allegation occurred to one.

When the Houses of Parliament were burned, the *Times* published a clever poem (a sort of parody on "The House that Jack Built") in which was concentrated all the gossip and rumour touching the origin of the fire, and the statements of all sorts of witnesses who had, or thought they had, something to tell. I remember that one of the verses began

"This is Mr. Cooper, of Drury Lane,

Who went down to (somewhere) and back again ;"

and a footnote said, "Not our friend *Jacopo*." Our friend is no more, having just departed at a good age, seventy-four. His evening life was one of comfort and respect. Somebody should give us a sketch of John Cooper. He was a type of the conventional actor, but he was a very good actor, minded his business conscientiously, and always did all that he knew. *Jacopo* was his name in a Drury Lane adaptation of the American Mr. Cooper's "Bravo" (I think that was the novel, and that the drama, which was musical, was called "The Red Mask"), and on the first night Mr. Cooper knelt at the block and was duly beheaded. But audiences had not then learned to love the horrible, and the Drury Lane people made such a terrible disturbance about the execution of their favourite—like the "Cornish boys" when Bishop Trelawny was in danger—that on the next night, as the death procession was crossing the grand square, a white handkerchief flew out at a window, and the chorus exultingly struck up—

Doubt is over; see, of mercy

Yonder waves the happy sign.

Many who read this will remember Cooper as the Prince in that splendid spectacle and very effective drama "The Jewess," which has never been beaten except by some of the Covent-Garden Meyerbeer representations. He had behaved ill to the heroine (exquisitely played by the lady who was then Miss Ellen Tree), and she went in search of him, and fell exhausted at the door of the palace, in an attitude which still dwells on one's eye, just as does that other wonderful bit of silent effect, Charles Kemble's "stroll into Angiers with indolent grace." But I am told that Cooper's *Othello* had singular merit. I should have thought him a good deal over-parted there; but I have heard the reverse from men who went to theatres when there were great actors. His *Cassio* was exceedingly good—the remorse of a genteel kind of person who had had the misfortune to get drunk, and who thought the world was therefore at an end, was just, I think, what we wanted. You did not feel in the least with the donkey; but Cooper made him manly enough at the end, and said, "Dear General, I never gave you cause" in a tone that I remember after twenty years. At one time no Drury-Lane play in which he did not appear seemed complete; and the *Times* expressed what we all felt when it called him "our friend." He has helped me through many a pleasant evening; I am very glad that his own evening was pleasant.

More egotistic reminiscence, but it will be forgiven when, as they say in the House, I end with a motion. I have been once in my life in Epping Forest, and it was at a date when I was so young as to consider the honour of sitting on a relative's camp-stool a far more wonderful thing than beholding the trees. But the place is a favourite haunt with thousands, and now it is going to be inclosed. Some sort of saving of the rights of the public is promised, but it seems to come to little. Is it necessary that every open space round London should be sacrificed to bricks and mortar? Of course there will be wonderful good red-tape reasons why Epping Forest should be destroyed, but I would move that the members of Parliament in whose district the forest is be requested to ride out and inspect, and discover with their own eyes how much is to be left to those who make a better use of the place than I have done. There is a letter by Mr. Fithian, of the Commons' Preservation Society, which makes the proceeding look anything but fair.

This was "in the papers." An advertisement:—"Wanted, a carriage horse. Any Protestant family about to travel for the next twelve months, not wishing to dispose of their favourite horse, may hear of an excellent home, and the kindest treatment: references through a clergyman. Address, &c." Of course, in these days of dogma and proselytism, we cannot be too careful, and the precaution of the advertiser in stipulating that the horse should not have Catholic proclivities is not to be derided.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

The finale of the Education Bill was quite dramatic. When the stage of third reading was called on, as might have been expected, Mr. Dixon, who has been for so many months riding about the country, as the very knight-errant of education presented himself. He was grievous, melancholy of countenance, and the tones in which he spoke were subdued, as if influenced by a consciousness that his legitimate occupation as a fancy education-monger was gone. Nevertheless, he contrived to work his spirit up to an ebullition of splenetic attack on the Government, which, as he implied, had out-finished him; and he said some things, and hinted more, of Mr. Gladstone, and even of Mr. Forster, which might be called atrabilarious; but he seemed a little better after he had liberated his mind. Then uprose Mr. Miall, and in a slow, deliberate bitterness of phrase and intonation which was peculiar, said what he and those by whom he is supported thought of the measure; and his idea may be summed up in the monosyllable "done." If what he said was meant to be gall and worm-wood the result was perfect success; for Mr. Gladstone, finding himself assailed on the one side by a Churchman, though, for the occasion and under the circumstances, he might by some be described as a recreant one, and on the other by a typical Nonconformist—"Tros Tyriusque"—gave way to his natural impulse, and, flinging "away respective lenity," let "fire-eyed fury be his conduct then." Pale, haggard, with attenuated figure—suggestive of the description of the poet who was compelled to put weights (stones generally, and halfpence when he could) to prevent his being blown away by the gentlest breath of wind—he yet acquired a factitious strength from the incentive of the moment. His eye flamed and his voice was loud, but more shrill and less trumpet-toned than usual, and, in a very whirlwind of language, he retorted, and, evidently with mingled pain and indignation, protested against his being considered as the agent of a section of the people while he had laboured to be the Minister of the whole nation in regard to this scheme of education. The effect was remarkable. There was not so much cheering as might have been expected, though a good deal came from the Opposition, which may have been mixed in its character, partly involuntary admiration of the powerful self-assertion of the leader of the Liberal party, interspersed with some chuckling at witnessing his dashing from him the allegiance of a subdivision of that party; but there was a sense of the impressiveness of the scene to be gathered from the general demeanour of the House. Presently Mr. Melly was found to be troubled sorely about something; and there was so much quivering and unsteadiness in the Liberal ranks that Mr. Forster came forward, and, in his best "vir pietate gravis" style, arbitrated, and mediated, and soothed, and thanked everyone—his opponents, whose opposition had evoked amendment of the measure, and his supporters, who had so loyally helped him; so that a kindlier spirit was raised and spread itself over the assembly; and in due time the measure passed from the Commons amidst genuine applause, a good deal of which was bestowed on Mr. Forster, as he strode, with head erect, and looking, if possible, taller than ever, to the door; doubtless, fully understanding the feeling which Christian, in the "Pilgrim's Progress" must have enjoyed when his burden at length fell from his back.

Once and again the crucial privilege of a single member, at his pleasure or his caprice, to exclude the conventional "stranger" from the House has been brought into operation. When the measure which brought about this Parliamentary movement after an abeyance of many years was again called on, Mr. Craufurd, who has constituted himself the guardian of legislative delicacy, and who so admirably looks the part, exercised his right of "spying strangers in the galleries." This time the Speaker, no more than anyone else, was taken by surprise, and, when Lord Bury started up to remonstrate, peremptorily silenced him; and, the clearance being duly effected, the House remained *in camera* for several hours. All the while there was going on a process the result of which was to prove irrefragably that if the wisdom of Parliament is to be recorded it must be done by people who are to the manner trained. For several members, good-naturedly enough, and probably also with a view to neutralise the effect of the dogmatic exclusion of the representative public, employed themselves in noting what was said, and their efforts duly appeared next day in some of the morning journals, when doubtless the judgment of regular newspaper readers as to which was best in such cases, such reports, or no reports at all, was prompt and decisive. As one of those who is presumed never to open his mouth but there drops from it words of wisdom and truth, and sometimes phrases of a curiously "call-a-spade-a-spade" character, Mr. Henley was especially irate at the enforced absence of the chroniclers. So next day, when the House was drawn up in array, like all the characters in a drama for the dénouement, to witness the last scene of the Education Bill, up rose that quaint right hon. gentleman, and, in as much of a "tallyho" voice as he could affect, loudly demanded the clearance of the House. There was a little confusion at the moment, and many persons, amongst them apparently the Speaker, did not observe him. Thereupon, somewhat irately, he repeated his demand, and this time was obeyed, and out went the strangers. But not for long, inasmuch as Mr. Henley's purpose was achieved when he got from the Government the promise that the rule should be considered by a Committee next Session; so that there is every probability that this single member's privilege will never again be exercised.

Glancing at some of the features of Parliamentary proceedings, it may be observed that the House of Commons, as a body, has been acting with great discretion and forbearance in regard to inquiries to Ministers about Foreign Affairs, which means war affairs; and this notwithstanding that they have been no little incited by Mr. Disraeli, who has come down several times, and uttered pompous, circumlocutory, and portentous sayings, which, by the leniency of the Speaker, he was allowed to call questions. Probably he had a quiet hint from the chair, for on Monday he avowedly postponed his inquiry until such time as the rules of the House enabled him to put it in the form of a speech, notwithstanding an eager request from Mr. Gladstone that he would make it a real question merely, and not give opportunity for discussion, of which such eager young patriots and statesmen as Mr. Horsman would be sure to avail themselves. Not that Mr. Gladstone said this; but he might well have thought it. But Mr. Disraeli seems to think it a function of the leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons to utter ponderous manifestoes to Europe in general, and the belligerent Powers in particular, with an entire unconsciousness of how pointless and lumbering these quasi spoken state papers are. In extreme contrast to him is the demeanour of Mr. Gladstone, who is so reticent, so subdued in voice and manner as to suggest an overwhelming sense of responsibility; and he manages with great skill to clothe his half communications in very diplomatic language. Another thing to be noticed is, that the order-book of the Commons is now stripped of all its heavy incumbrances in the shape of big bills obstructive of the ending of the Session, and only a residuum of estimates and minor measures remains.

MUSIC.

CLOSE OF THE OPERA SEASON.

COVENT GARDEN.

After this (Saturday) evening Italian opera will be silent here for awhile. The Royal Italian Opera terminated its performances with the end of last week, and the Drury Lane establishment is to close to-night—novelties remaining to be noticed in reference to each. At the former "L'Etoile du Nord" was performed last week, after an interval of four years, its revival having been postponed from the previous Saturday. Madame Adelina Patti was the Catarina, as on a few occasions at the end of the season of 1866; Signori Naudin and Graziani having again appeared in the characters of Danilovitz and Gritzenko, that of Peter having been assigned to Signor Cotogni. The rehearsing of Meyerbeer's "L'Etoile du Nord" at the Royal Italian Opera was welcome after the four years' silence to which it had been consigned there. Originally produced in Paris at the Opéra Comique, in 1855, it was brought out as "La Stella del Nord" at the Royal Italian Opera here shortly before the burning of the theatre in 1855. The principal female character, that of Catarina, was then assigned to the late Madame Bosio; and was afterwards performed for only one or two nights in 1866 by Madame Patti, whose reputation of it last week was characterised by all that brilliancy of voice and execution, and personal charm of manner, which before rendered it eminently attractive. Some portions of the music of "L'Etoile" were derived by the composer from that which he wrote, in 1844, for an occasional piece entitled "Ein Feldlager in Schlesien," performed in that year at Berlin. The greater part of the opera, however, was composed to the libretto prepared by Scribe, who, as well as the composer, has given the work a much more serious and heroic character than that of an opéra comique, as it is entitled. As before, Madame Patti gave the music of Catherine with great effect, particularly the quaint couplets and the exquisitely melodious prayer, in the first act; the incidental passages in the second act, when, disguised as a recruit, following the army of the Czar, her unknown admirer; and the final scene of distraction and recovery, including the brilliant bravura air with two flutes obligati. The success of the performance was again triumphant. Signor Naudin gained frequent applause, and an encore in his aria "Disperso il crin;" and Signor Ciampi was as successful as before as the inflexible old Corporal. The two vivandières and Echimona were efficiently represented by Mdles. Bauermeister, Madigan, and Olma; and the subordinate characters were much as in the previous representations. Other performances since our last notice have been chiefly benefit nights—those of Mdle. Titiens, in "Lucrezia Borgia," on Monday; Madame Patti, as Marguerite, in "Faust," on Thursday; and Mdle. Sessi, for the first time, as Gilda, in "Rigoletto," on Friday. The closing night (Saturday last) was devoted to a repetition of "L'Etoile du Nord."

The season of the Royal Italian Opera commenced on March 29, under the joint direction of Messrs. Gye and Mapleson, it being the second year of their coalition. The opening night was also that of Mdle. Sessi's first appearance in England, and of the reappearance of Herr Wachtel after four years' absence. The lady, in her performance as Lucia, made a highly favourable impression, which was maintained and improved during the remainder of the season in various characters, including Maria in "La Figlia," the Queen of Night in "Il Flauto Magico," Violetta in "La Traviata," Maria in "Don Pasquale," Ophelia in "Hamlet," and Gilda in "Rigoletto," all with more or less success. The German tenor displayed the same penetrating high notes as formerly and an equally crude style as Raoul on the occasion just referred to—his best performance, perhaps, having been as Arnoldo in "Tell." His career this season, however, was suddenly terminated by his departure, owing to some stage quarrel, which was but lamely explained by his letter in the newspapers of June 3. On April 2 Mdle. Titiens appeared for the first time this year; on May 7, Madame Adelina Patti and Signor Mario; and on the 10th of the same month, Madame Pauline Lucca returned; and these great artists were heard alternately in most of their best parts until the end of the season. The production of Signor Campana's new opera, "Esmeralda," on June 14, proved that poor music cannot be compensated, however it may be factitiously upheld, by fine performance. In spite of the brilliant singing of Madame Patti—on whose account, we presume, it was produced—the opera was a virtual failure, although it was forced into three repetitions. This was the only absolute novelty of the season. Many fine works, and some of the lighter school, belonging to the former repertoire were repeated, and Cherubini's tragic masterpiece, "Medea," with the grand performance of Mdle. Titiens, as revived at Her Majesty's Theatre in 1865, was given (on April 30) for the first time at the Royal Italian Opera. That the promised production of Verdi's "Macbeth" has not taken place this season calls for little regret, unless it may be for the loss of a fine dramatic impersonation of the heroine by Mdle. Titiens. Revivals promised in previous seasons have been forthcoming—"Le Domino Noir," with Madame Pauline Lucca for the first time as Angela; "I Puritani," with Madame Patti's first appearance in England in the character of Elvira; and "L'Etoile du Nord," as already referred to. In addition to the singers incidentally mentioned above, the principal vocalists of previous years have again been heard—including Mesdames Vanzini, Dell'Anese; Mdles. Locatelli, Scalchi, and Bauermeister; Dr. Gunz; Signori Naudin, Marino, Bagagiolo, Graziani, Tagliafico; M. Petit and Signor Capponi, after a season's absence; and Signori Urio, Vizzani, and Caravoglia, for the first time at this establishment. Signori Vianesi and Bevigiani have divided the office of conductor, with as good results as can be expected from such division of duties; and the band and chorus have been generally efficient; the stage effects, under the long-continued superintendence of Mr. A. Harris, having been again conspicuous for splendour and efficiency.

DRURY LANE.

Of the Drury-Lane Opera we have at once to chronicle the end of the season and the production of an important work hitherto unheard in this country, although long since esteemed in Germany, and the composition of a living musician who has excited more controversy and been the subject of more conflicting opinions than any composer since Gluck. With the exception of the warfare which raged in Paris between his partisans and those of Piccini (nearly a century since) no question of the kind has been so angrily argued, or has given rise to such diversity of judgments, as that of the merits of Richard Wagner, whose fierce denunciatory pamphlets are scarcely less remarkable in their defiant antagonism than the extraordinary stage productions in which he has sought to realise a truthfulness in opera which he denies to the works of the past. His theory of a perfect fusion and equal balance between the pictorial, the poetical, and the musical elements has apparently not yet found a solution that is satisfactory to himself, since each successive opera he holds to be an advance on its predecessor; while

to the majority the later works seem to be only a still further departure not only from conventional precedent, but also from all principles of form and development and melodic beauty. "Rienzi" and "Der Fliegende Holländer," produced in 1842 and 1843, have long since been almost disowned by the composer of "Tannhäuser" (1845), "Lohengrin" (1850), "Das Rheingold," "Tristan und Isolde," and the recent "Walkyre," on the characteristics of which, as on Wagner's theory, we need not now further enlarge, having to do with an opera containing much effective and highly dramatic music, in which recognised principles largely prevail. From the title it will readily be seen that the subject of the opera is based on the well-known legend of the "Flying Dutchman"—the libretto, as in all Wagner's operas, being written by himself, with a knowledge of stage effect and musical purposes that should alone place him beyond the petty depreciatory criticism which has been indulged in by many whose acquaintance with his powers and productions was of the slightest. Whatever place may be ultimately assigned to his compositions, no one who inquires into the subject can doubt his being a man of great and remarkable power, a master of musical effect generally, and especially of orchestral combinations—whether these qualities be turned to good or ill account. In "Der Fliegende Holländer" Wagner was still seeking for individuality and the formation of a distinct style, and the work is frequently somewhat eclectic. In the overture and elsewhere are traces of that predilection for Weber which is carried even into his "Tannhäuser," and lasts until he begins to cast aside all semblance of musical outline and form. Meyerbeer too—afterward the subject of coarse insult in Wagner's pamphlets—has evidently furnished some inspiration in the composition of "Der Fliegende Holländer." Many points of strong originality, and an intense perception of dramatic effect, the romantic and the supernatural, are observable throughout the opera. The chill and gloom of the first recitative of the Dutchman, the revival of human sentiment in the duet with the Norwegian captain, and the bold northern tone of the choruses of sailors, in the first act, are full of masterly power. But it is in the second act that Wagner rises to the greatest height of dramatic effect, and discloses also a feeling for melodic beauty that it is to be regretted he has not continued to cultivate. The opening chorus of girls at the spinning-wheel is charming in its bright freshness of melody, and throws into strong relief the following legendary ballad, in which Senta, the daughter of the Norwegian skipper, relates the legend of the "Flying Dutchman," whose captain is to exercise so fatal an influence on her. The duet with her young lover, Erik, the hunter (who seeks to break the spell) has much dramatic contrast; while that between Senta and the doomed mariner (who suddenly enters with her father), is one of the most elaborate and masterly pieces of dramatic writing to be found in the whole range of stage music. Splendidly sung, in its several divisions and changes of sentiment, by Mdle. Ilma di Murska and Mr. Santley, it produced a profound impression, and, with the short trio which follows, including Daland, brought the second act to a triumphant conclusion amidst enthusiastic applause. The third act, short as it is, contains some highly picturesque and effective music, particularly in the contrasted choruses for Norwegian sailors on deck and women on shore; the passionate scene between Senta and Erik; the graceful cavatina for the latter, the impassioned declamation in which the Dutchman renounces Senta, and in which she persists in following him, with the catastrophe of the destruction of both. The effect of the whole work on an audience including many of our most distinguished musicians sufficiently established the claims of Wagner to more generally respectful consideration than he has hitherto received here. The work should have many repetitions next season, when all who are interested in one of the most exciting musical questions of the day, should gladly avail themselves of the opportunity brought home to them of judging for themselves of the merits of a much-abused composer. The performance was throughout excellent. Of Mdle. di Murska and Mr. Santley we have already spoken. Signor Foli as Daland, the Norwegian captain, gave his music with admirable style and earnestness; and Signor Perotti (who made his début as Faust on Wednesday) gained much deserved applause by his judicious delivery of the music of Erik—the cast having been efficiently completed by Signor Rinaldini as the helmsman, and Madame Corsi in the small part of Mary. The elaborate and rich orchestral writing was finely rendered by the band, and the overture encoored, Signor Ardit's energetic and skilful conducting having been an important aid to the general efficiency of the performance of the opera.

The season of Italian opera at Drury Lane Theatre, which closes to-night (Saturday), commenced, under the direction of Mr. George Wood, on April 16, with a performance of "Rigoletto," in which Mdle. Ilma di Murska appeared as Gilda for the first time in London, and gave fresh evidence of those deeper powers of dramatic expression which she evinced last year, in addition to her brilliant vocal accomplishments. On April 19, Madame Monbelli made a successful first appearance as Rosina in "Il Barbiere di Siviglia," having been, only previously known here by her concert performances of last season. Mdle. Reboux, who made her début on April 21 as Marguerite in "Faust," claims mention chiefly as having on various subsequent occasions proved serviceable by her ready preparation as a substitute for Mdle. Christine Nilsson during the temporary illness of that artist, whose appearance was announced for May 7, but was postponed for three days and took place in "Lucia di Lammermoor," in which her performance as the heroine was again remarkable for dramatic and vocal excellence. On May 12 occurred one of the several specialties which have rendered this Drury Lane season memorable in operatic annals—the production of Weber's charming operetta "Abu Hassan" and of Mozart's opera-buffa "L'Oca del Cairo." Admirably as these were performed—the cast of the first including those excellent artists, Mesdames Monbelli and Trebelli-Bettini; of the second Madame Sinico and Signor Gardoni—strange to say they did not attract a public that has become too much addicted to running after the two or three popular singers of the day, no matter what the music performed. In "L'Oca del Cairo" a very young Russian lady, Mdle. Pauline Lewitzky, made a successful appearance; and she continued to be favourably received in her subsequent performances, as Cherubino in "Le Nozze di Figaro," and Zerlina in "Don Giovanni." On May 14 Mdle. Nilsson performed Alice in "Roberto il Diavolo" for the first time in London, with great success; and on the 26th of the same month M. Faure appeared, for the first time here, as Mephistopheles in "Faust"—a well-remembered impersonation at the other Opera House some seasons since. On May 30 Mdle. Cari, who seceded from the Royal Italian Opera, was favourably received as Nancy in "Martha," and continued to maintain the good impression until the end of the season. Mdle. Nilsson's severe illness interfered with her promised appearance from the beginning of June until the middle of the month, when she achieved a new success by her charming performance, for the first time, of the character of the Countess

in "Le Nozze di Figaro;" another special success of the same artist having been made as Desdemona in the revival of Rossini's "Otello" on June 21; with Signor Mongini as the Moor, in which character he sang occasionally with grand declamatory power, alternated with those defects of style which alone have hindered him from being now the greatest of living tenors. The production of M. Thomas's "Mignon" on July 5, and our detailed notice on the following Saturday, are so recent that we need now only slightly refer to the exquisite performance of Mdle. Nilsson in the principal character as having largely enhanced the effect of the opera. Of the last event of the season, one of the most important occurrences of the year—the production of Wagner's opera—we have spoken fully above. This work was repeated on Tuesday. On Thursday "Lucia" was to be given again, with Mdle. Nilsson as the heroine; and on Saturday (to-night) this artiste is to take her benefit, and to appear in a combined entertainment; her last performances before her departure, and the termination of the season.

So many important promises have been kept that no stress should be laid on the non-production of Cherubini's "Les Deux Journées;" and neither the new opera, "Silvaggia," nor its composer, Signor Schira, will probably suffer much by awaiting some future opportunity of production. Most of the excellent vocalists of the company have been mentioned above; others who contributed to the general efficiency were Madame Volpini, Signori Bettini, Verger, Gassier, Raquer, Castelli, Mr. Lyall, &c.

Signor Ardit's undivided musical direction during the whole season has largely conduced to the excellence of the performances.

The public concert annually given by the Royal Academy of Music took place last Saturday, at the Hanover-square Rooms, under the direction of Mr. John Hullah, who was appointed orchestral conductor at the beginning of the year. Many of the students distinguished themselves greatly in performance and composition. In the former capacity, the pianoforte-playing of Miss Townsend, in Hummel's Indian fantasia; Miss Linda Scates and Mr. Kemp, in Mozart's concerto (in E flat) for two pianos; Mr. Shakspeare, in part of a concerto of his own composition; and Miss West Marland, in Weber's Concertstück; and Miss Channell, in Sterndale Bennett's caprice in E, were worthy of great commendation, and were received with much applause—as was also Mr. Morley's execution of Beethoven's romance in F for violin. The most important of the M.S. compositions produced was part of an orchestral symphony by Mr. Wingham; other pieces (vocal), by Messrs. Parry and Brion, and Miss Crawford having been performed. The solo vocalists were Mr. Parry, Miss Marion Severn, Miss Rebecca Jewell, Miss Ferrari, and Miss Maudsley. Prizes were distributed by Mrs. W. E. Gladstone—silver medals to Misses Waite and C. Gardner, and Mr. T. Wingham; bronze medals to Miss Goode, Miss Bainsfather, Miss Jessie Ferrari, Miss Pocklington, Mr. Parry, and Mr. Cook; books and letters of commendation to many other students; special letters having been accorded to Misses Rebecca Jewell, Linda Scates, and Marion Severn; and Messrs. W. Shakspeare and S. Kemp—all of whom have previously received silver medals. The institution is understood to be in a flourishing condition.

THE THEATRES.

A new farce, entitled "Poppleton's Predicaments," by Mr. C. M. Rae, was produced at the Royalty, on the occasion of Mr. Hastings' benefit, and was well received. It is a mere sketch, brief and lively. Mr. Peter Poppleton (Mr. W. Blakely), a wealthy merchant, old and unmarried, avoiding women, and offended with his nephew, Arthur Hardup (Mr. Collette), for having married without his consent, is the eccentric hero. Arthur, to win back the good graces of his uncle, resorts to desperate expedients. Leaving his baby at his house, he inserts in the journals a matrimonial advertisement, with his uncle's name and address. The latter, finding the baby, inserts another advertisement, offering a reward to anyone who will claim "the little cherub." Poppleton receives numerous letters, and a visit from an applicant, Mrs. Trapern (Mrs. Edgar), who he supposes has come to claim the baby, and also another from Arthur's wife (Miss Temple), who takes the reward but leaves the child. Poppleton is duly plagued until he promises forgiveness, when Mrs. Hardup reappears, and manages to reconcile him to the sex in general and to herself in particular. Miss Louie Moodie appeared as Julia, in "The Hunchback," and was assisted by Mr. Pennington as Master Walter, a Miss Elise Merville sustaining the part of Helen, supported by Mr. Sydney as Modus. Mr. Joseph Robins was Fathom. Many recitations followed: Mr. Hermann Vezin recited a ballad, "After the Chase," by Mr. Albery; and Miss Edith Heraud an abridged arrangement of Tom Hood's "Miss Kilmansegg." Bishop's song of "Tell me, my heart," was sung by Miss Blanche Reeves; and Mr. G. Buckland caused much laughter by his recitation of "The Naughty Little Boy." The entertainments concluded with "The Rough Diamond."

Sadler's Wells was opened on Saturday for the performance of "Macbeth," with an efficient company; but, owing to the heat of the weather, only a small, though appreciative, audience assembled, and the experiment, accordingly, was not repeated.

The Strand is closed; but will reopen in September with "The School for Scandal" and a new and original burlesque.

Mr. Hermann Vezin appeared on Monday, in his original character of Doctor Davy, at the Gaiety; where this morning a special performance in behalf of Mr. Creswick will take place. It consists of "The Heir-at-Law," "One Touch of Nature," part of the third and fourth acts of "Othello," the second of "Two Roses," and the screen scene from "The School for Scandal."

The season of the French plays at the Princess's will close this evening. The revival of "Barbe Bleue" has given ample scope for the specialties of Madame Schneider and the talents of the company. The marked success of the more dramatic portion of the season will probably induce the management to repeat the experiment next year.

The Duke of Cambridge and several noblemen and gentlemen have formed themselves into a committee, in order to signify the public appreciation of the loyalty and valour of the Canadian volunteers in defending the frontiers of the Canadian Dominion. The committee contemplate the presentation of a prize or prizes to be shot for during the present season, and they propose to invest such moneys as may be received beyond the cost of such prize in the securities of the Dominion, the interest of which to be applied to future volunteer purposes in Canada. The Lord Mayor is the chairman, and the Marquis of Westminster, Mr. Cardwell, the Marquis of Donegall, the Earl of Ducie, Lord Northbrook, and others are on the committee.



THE WAR: GRENADIERS OF THE GUARD PASSING ALONG THE BOULEVARD TO THE RAILWAY STATION, PARIS.
SEE PAGE 112.

THE WIMBLEDON RIFLE MEETING.

The winner of the Queen's prize of £250, with the gold medal and badge of the National Rifle Association for the year 1870, and the championship of the small-bore rifles, was announced last week. He is Mr. William Humphries, Corporal of the 6th Surrey Rifle Volunteers, who made an aggregate score of 66 in the three successive competitions at the 800-yards, 900-yards, and 1000-yards ranges. Three others below him scored each 65, two 63, and three 62. At the 800-yards range Corporal Humphries scored 24—one less than Lieutenant Eddison, of the 7th West York; but at the 900-yards range the former scored 26, and led the field, with a total of 50; while Lieutenant Eddison, at this range, made but 20, standing at a total of 45. Consequently, though Lieutenant Eddison again made 20 at the 1000-yards range, and Corporal Humphries made 16, the Surrey man came off winner on the aggregate score.

Corporal Humphries is a son of Mr. Alfred Humphries, grocer, of Walton-on-Thames, and is only twenty-one years of age. As a member of the 6th Surrey Rifle Volunteer Corps, he had greatly distinguished himself by his steady and accurate shooting. In competing for the senior wrangler-ship of Wimbledon, he laboured under a serious disadvantage, as compared with many of his rivals, who were experienced and crack shots with the small bore, for he had never shot with this weapon till in actual competition for the championship. Our portrait of Corporal Humphries is engraved from a photograph by Mr. Herbert Watkins, of Regent-street.

On his return home, on Saturday evening, he was met by a procession consisting of the volunteers of Walton and the neighbouring places, and of the inhabitants of his native village. The horses were removed from the carriage sent to meet him, and, crowned with laurels, he was drawn



MR. HUMPHRIES, 6TH SURREY RIFLE VOLUNTEERS, WINNER OF THE QUEEN'S PRIZE.

through the streets, which were illuminated with coloured lights. The bells of the old church sent forth a welcoming peal, and the Walton band played "See the Conquering Hero Comes."

The shooting at Wimbledon towards the end of the week consisted mostly of the finishing of contests begun on the former days. Preparations were made on the Friday for the Saturday's combined review of regular troops and volunteers. A flying column of 2500 men, including the 33rd Regiment, the 42nd Highlanders, the Rifle Brigade, a battalion of the 13th, a company of Royal Engineers, and some of the Engineer Train, under the command of Major-General Carey, marched in from Aldershot at half-past five in the morning, and pitched their tents on the common. The Royal Artillery and 7th Dragoon Guards also came up to take their part next day. The review and performance of manoeuvres, which took place about six o'clock on Saturday afternoon, attracted a numerous gathering of spectators. Several of the best volunteer corps (the London Scottish, the St. George's, and the Inns of Court) did not attend; but the whole force, composed of volunteers and regulars, mustered 8000 or 10,000 men. The command devolved on Lieutenant-General Sir Hope Grant. The volunteers were formed into four brigades, under Lord Bury, Lord Truro, Lord Ranelagh, and Captain Jones. The manoeuvres and marching past, which occupied an hour and a half, were executed in a creditable style. The only drawback on the success of this meeting has been the general regret which is felt by all the volunteers for the severe affliction that has befallen Lord Elcho by the disaster in his family.

Mr. James Bradshaw, of Norwich, and Mr. Henry Godolphin Clarke, of Queens' College, Cambridge, were drowned on Monday while bathing from a machine at Lowestoft. They had ventured out too far.



THE WAR: OFFICE FOR VOLUNTARY ENLISTMENTS AT PARIS.
SEE PAGE 112.

